

PEPflex

**PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
HEALTH & WELFARE PLAN**

September 1, 2011



Fee-for-Service Medical

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company
21555 Oxnard Street
Woodland Hills, California 91367

This Certificate of Insurance, including any amendments and endorsements to it, is a summary of the important terms of your health plan. It replaces any older certificates issued to you for the coverages described in the Summary of Benefits. The Group Policy, of which this certificate is a part, must be consulted to determine the exact terms and conditions of coverage. If you have special health care needs, you should read those sections of the Certificate of Insurance that apply to those needs. Your employer will provide you with a copy of the Group Policy upon request.

Your health care coverage is insured by Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company (Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health). The following pages describe your health care benefits and includes the limitations and all other *policy* provisions which apply to you. The *insured person* is referred to as "you" or "your," and Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health as "we," "us" or "our." All italicized words have specific *policy* definitions. These definitions can be found in the DEFINITIONS section of this certificate.

COMPLAINT NOTICE

Should you have any complaints or questions regarding your coverage, and this certificate was delivered by a broker, you should first contact the broker. You may also contact us at:

**Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company
Customer Service
21555 Oxnard Street
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
818-234-2700**

If the problem is not resolved, you may also contact the California Department of Insurance at:

**California Department of Insurance
Claims Service Bureau, 11th Floor
300 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90013**

1-800-927-HELP (4357) – In California

1-213-897-8921 – Out of California

1-800-482-4833 – Telecommunication Device for the Deaf

**E-mail Inquiry: “Consumer Services” link at
www.insurance.ca.gov**

Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Association. ® ANTHEM is a registered trademark. ® The Blue Cross name and symbol are registered marks of the Blue Cross Association.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS	1
MEDICAL BENEFITS.....	2
YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS	4
HOW COVERED EXPENSE IS DETERMINED	4
DEDUCTIBLES AND MEDICAL BENEFIT MAXIMUMS	4
CONDITIONS OF COVERAGE	6
MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED	6
MEDICAL CARE THAT IS NOT COVERED.....	20
PRE-EXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSION	26
REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTS OF THIRD PARTIES	27
COORDINATION OF BENEFITS	28
BENEFITS FOR MEDICARE ELIGIBLE INSURED PERSONS	31
UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM	32
THE MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW PROCESS	38
PERSONAL CASE MANAGEMENT	40
DISAGREEMENTS WITH MEDICAL MANAGEMENT DECISIONS.....	42
QUALITY ASSURANCE	42
HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS	43
HOW COVERAGE BEGINS	43
HOW COVERAGE ENDS	49
CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE	52
CALCOBRA CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE	58
SENIOR COBRA CONTINUATION FOR QUALIFYING INSURED PERSONS	61
COVERAGE FOR SURVIVING FAMILY MEMBERS	64
EXTENSION OF BENEFITS	64
HIPAA COVERAGE AND CONVERSION	65
GENERAL PROVISIONS	67

**INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REVIEW OF DENIALS OF
EXPERIMENTAL OR INVESTIGATIVE TREATMENT.....71**

**INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REVIEW OF GRIEVANCES
INVOLVING A DISPUTED HEALTH CARE SERVICE.....73**

BINDING ARBITRATION74

DEFINITIONS75

FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....85

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION87

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION87

STATEMENT OF ERISA RIGHTS95

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS

THE BENEFITS OF THIS CERTIFICATE ARE PROVIDED ONLY FOR SERVICES WHICH ARE CONSIDERED TO BE MEDICALLY NECESSARY. THE FACT THAT A PHYSICIAN PRESCRIBES OR ORDERS THE SERVICE DOES NOT, IN ITSELF, MAKE IT MEDICALLY NECESSARY OR A COVERED EXPENSE.

This summary provides a brief outline of your benefits. You need to refer to the entire certificate for complete information about the benefits, conditions, limitations and exclusions of your *plan*.

Second Opinions. If you have a question about your condition or about a plan of treatment which your *physician* has recommended, you may receive a second medical opinion from another *physician*. This second opinion visit will be provided according to the benefits, limitations, and exclusions of this *plan*.

Reproductive Health Care Services. Some *hospitals* and other providers do not provide one or more of the following services that may be covered under your *plan* contract and that you or your family member might need: family planning; contraceptive services, including emergency contraception; sterilization, including tubal ligation at the time of labor and delivery; infertility treatments; or abortion. You should obtain more information before you enroll. Call your prospective *physician* or clinic, or call us at the customer service telephone number listed on your ID card to ensure that you can obtain the health care services that you need.

Care After Hours. If you need care after your *physician's* normal office hours and you do not have an *emergency* medical condition or need *urgent care*, please call your *physician's* office for instructions.

All benefits are subject to coordination with benefits under certain other plans.

The benefits of this <i>plan</i> may be subject to the REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTS OF THIRD PARTIES section.

MEDICAL BENEFITS

DEDUCTIBLES

Calendar Year Deductibles

- *Insured Person* Deductible **\$250**
- Family Deductible **two Insured Person Deductibles**

Additional Deductibles

- Emergency Room Deductible..... **\$100**
- Non-Certification Deductible..... **\$250**

Exceptions: In certain circumstances, one or more of these deductibles may not apply, as described below:

- The Calendar Year Deductible will not apply to *covered expense* incurred for Preventive Care Services.
- The Emergency Room Deductible will not apply if you are admitted as a *hospital* inpatient immediately following emergency room treatment.
- The Non-Certification Deductible will not apply to *emergency* admissions or services. See UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM.

PAYMENT RATES

First Level of Payment. After your *Calendar Year* Deductible and any other applicable deductible has been satisfied, we will pay **80%** of *covered expense*.

Exception: We will pay **100%** of *covered expense* for *preventive care services*. See “Preventive Care Services” under YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS: MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Second Level of Payment. After we have made **\$8,000** in total payments for *covered expense* each *insured person* incurs during a *calendar year*, we will pay any additional *covered expense* for the remainder of the *year* at **100%**.

MEDICAL BENEFIT MAXIMUMS

We will pay, for the following services and supplies, up to the maximum amounts, or for the maximum number of days or visits shown below:

Skilled Nursing Facility

- For covered *skilled nursing facility* care **100 days**
per calendar year

Home Health Care

- For covered home health services **100 visits**
per calendar year

Ambulance

- For all covered services..... **\$500**
per trip

Self-Donated Blood

- For collection, processing and storage..... **\$100**
for each planned
covered procedure

Physical Therapy, Physical Medicine and Occupational Therapy

- For covered outpatient services **24**
per calendar year,
additional visits as authorized
by us if *medically necessary*

Acupuncture

- For all covered services..... **\$30**
per visit, for up to 12 visits
per calendar year

Lifetime Maximum

- For all medical benefits..... **Unlimited**

YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS

HOW COVERED EXPENSE IS DETERMINED

We will pay for *covered expense* you incur under this *plan*. A charge is incurred when the service or supply giving rise to the charge is rendered or received. *Covered expense* for medical benefits is based on a maximum charge for each covered service or supply that will be accepted by us for each different type of provider. It is not necessarily the amount a provider bills for the service.

Type of Provider. The maximum *covered expense* for services provided by a *physician* will be the lesser of the billed charge or the *customary and reasonable charge*. The maximum *covered expense* for services provided by a *hospital* or *other health care provider* will be the lesser of the billed charge or the *reasonable charge*.

Exception: If Medicare is the primary payor, *covered expense* does not include any charge:

1. By a *hospital*, in excess of the approved amount as determined by Medicare; or
2. By a *physician* or *other health care provider*, in excess of the lesser of the maximum *covered expense* stated above, or:
 - a. For *providers* who accept Medicare assignment, the approved amount as determined by Medicare; or
 - b. For *providers* who do not accept Medicare assignment, the limiting charge as determined by Medicare.

You will always be responsible for expense incurred which is not covered under this *plan*.

DEDUCTIBLES AND MEDICAL BENEFIT MAXIMUMS

After we subtract any applicable deductible from the total amount of *covered expense*, we will pay benefits at the Payment Rate which applies to such expense, up to the applicable Medical Benefit Maximums. The Deductible amounts, Payment Rates and Medical Benefit Maximums are set forth in the SUMMARY OF BENEFITS.

DEDUCTIBLES

Each deductible under this *plan* is separate and distinct from the other. Charges that are considered *covered expense* will apply toward satisfaction of any deductible except as specifically indicated in this booklet.

Calendar Year Deductible. Each *year*, you will be responsible for satisfying the *insured person's* Calendar Year Deductible before we begin to pay benefits.

Family Deductible. The first two members of an enrolled family who satisfy their Calendar Year Deductibles will satisfy the Family Deductible. Once the Family Deductible is satisfied, no further Calendar Year Deductible expense will be required for any enrolled member of that family. However, we will not credit any expense previously applied to the Calendar Year Deductible of any other member of the family.

Prior Plan Calendar Year Deductibles. If you were covered under the *prior plan* any amount paid during the same *calendar year* toward your calendar year deductible under the *prior plan*, will be applied toward your Calendar Year Deductible under this *plan*; provided that, such payments were for charges that would be *covered expense* under this *plan*.

Additional Deductibles

1. Each time you visit an emergency room for treatment you will be responsible for paying the Emergency Room Deductible. However, this deductible will not apply if you are admitted as a *hospital* inpatient from the emergency room immediately following emergency room treatment.
2. Each time you are admitted to a *hospital* without properly obtaining certification, you are responsible for paying the Non-Certification Deductible. This deductible will not apply to an *emergency* admission or procedure. Certification is explained in UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM.

MEDICAL BENEFIT MAXIMUMS

We do not make benefit payments for any *insured person* in excess of any of the Medical Benefit Maximums.

Prior Plan Maximum Benefits. If you were covered under the *prior plan*, any benefits paid to you under the *prior plan* will reduce any maximum amounts you are eligible for under this *plan* which apply to the same benefit.

CONDITIONS OF COVERAGE

The following conditions of coverage must be met for expense incurred for services or supplies to be considered as *covered expense*.

1. You must incur this expense while you are covered under this *plan*. Expense is incurred on the date you receive the service or supply for which the charge is made.
2. The expense must be for a medical service or supply furnished to you as a result of illness or injury or pregnancy, unless a specific exception is made.
3. The expense must be for a medical service or supply included under MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Additional limits on *covered expense* are included under specific benefits and in the SUMMARY OF BENEFITS.
4. The expense must not be for a medical service or supply listed under MEDICAL CARE THAT IS NOT COVERED. If the service or supply is partially excluded, then only that portion which is not excluded will be considered *covered expense*.
5. The expense must not exceed any of the maximum benefits or limitations of this *plan*.
6. Any services received must be those which are regularly provided and billed by the provider. In addition, those services must be consistent with the illness, injury, degree of disability and your medical needs. Benefits are provided only for the number of days required to treat your illness or injury.
7. All services and supplies must be ordered by a *physician*.

MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED

Subject to the Medical Benefit Maximums in the SUMMARY OF BENEFITS, the requirements set forth under CONDITIONS OF COVERAGE and the exclusions or limitations listed under MEDICAL CARE THAT IS NOT COVERED, we will provide benefits for the following services and supplies:

Hospital

1. Inpatient services and supplies, provided by a *hospital*. *Covered expense* will not include charges in excess of the *hospital's* prevailing two-bed room rate unless there is a negotiated per diem rate between us and the *hospital*.
2. Services in *special care units*.

3. Outpatient services and supplies provided by a *hospital*, including outpatient surgery.

Hospital services are subject to pre-service review to determine medical necessity. Please refer to UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM for information on how to obtain the proper reviews.

Skilled Nursing Facility. Inpatient services and supplies provided by a *skilled nursing facility*, for up to 100 days per *calendar year*. The amount by which your room charge exceeds the prevailing two-bed room rate of the *skilled nursing facility* is not considered *covered expense*.

Skilled nursing facility services and supplies are subject to pre-service review to determine medical necessity. Please refer to UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM for information on how to obtain the proper reviews.

If we apply *covered expense* toward the Calendar Year Deductible and do not provide payment, those days will be included in the 100 days for that *year*.

Home Health Care. The following services provided by a *home health agency*:

1. Services of a registered nurse or licensed vocational nurse under the supervision of a registered nurse or a *physician*.
2. Services of a licensed therapist for physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, or respiratory therapy.
3. Services of a medical social service worker.
4. Services of a health aide who is employed by (or who contracts with) a *home health agency*. Services must be ordered and supervised by a registered nurse employed by the *home health agency* as professional coordinator. These services are covered only if you are also receiving the services listed in 1 or 2 above.
5. *Medically necessary* supplies provided by the *home health agency*.

In no event will benefits exceed 100 visits during a *calendar year*. A visit of four hours or less by a home health aide shall be considered as one home health visit.

If we apply *covered expense* toward the Calendar Year Deductible and do not provide payment, those visits will be included in the 100 visits for that *year*.

Home health care services are subject to pre-service review to determine medical necessity. Please refer to UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM for information on how to obtain the proper reviews.

Home health care services are not covered if received while you are receiving benefits under the "Hospice Care" provision of this section.

Hospice Care. The services and supplies listed below are covered when provided by a *hospice* for the palliative treatment of pain and other symptoms associated with a terminal disease. You must be suffering from a terminal illness as certified by your *physician* and submitted to us. Covered services are available on a 24-hour basis for the management of your condition.

1. Interdisciplinary team care with the development and maintenance of an appropriate plan of care.
2. Short-term inpatient *hospital* care when required in periods of crisis or as respite care. Coverage of inpatient respite care is provided on an occasional basis and is limited to a maximum of five consecutive days per admission.
3. Skilled nursing services provided by or under the supervision of a registered nurse. Certified home health aide services and homemaker services provided under the supervision of a registered nurse.
4. Social services and counseling services provided by a qualified social worker.
5. Dietary and nutritional guidance. Nutritional support such as intravenous feeding or hyperalimentation.
6. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and respiratory therapy provided by a licensed therapist.
7. Volunteer services provided by trained *hospice* volunteers under the direction of a *hospice* staff member.
8. Pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, and supplies necessary for the management of your condition. Oxygen and related respiratory therapy supplies.
9. Bereavement services, including assessment of the needs of the bereaved family and development of a care plan to meet those needs, both prior to and following the *employee's* or the *insured family member's* death. Bereavement services are available to surviving members of the immediate family for a period of one year after the death. Your immediate family means your spouse, children, step-children, parents, and siblings.
10. Palliative care (care which controls pain and relieves symptoms, but does not cure) which is appropriate for the illness.

Your *physician* must consent to your care by the *hospice* and must be consulted in the development of your treatment plan. The *hospice* must submit a written treatment plan to us every 30 days.

Ambulatory Surgical Center. Services and supplies provided by an *ambulatory surgical center* in connection with outpatient surgery.

Professional Services

1. Services of a *physician*.
2. Services of an anesthetist (M.D. or C.R.N.A.).

Reconstructive Surgery. Reconstructive surgery performed to correct deformities caused by congenital or developmental abnormalities, illness, or injury for the purpose of improving bodily function or symptomatology or creating a normal appearance. This includes *medically necessary* dental or orthodontic services that are an integral part of reconstructive surgery for cleft palate procedures. "Cleft palate" means a condition that may include cleft palate, cleft lip, or other craniofacial anomalies associated with cleft palate.

Ambulance. We will pay up to **\$500** per trip for the following ambulance services:

1. Base charge, mileage and non-reusable supplies of a licensed ambulance company for ground service to transport you to and from a *hospital*.
2. Emergency services or transportation services that are provided to you by a licensed ambulance company as a result of a "911" emergency response system* request for assistance if you believe you have an *emergency* medical condition requiring such assistance.
3. Base charge, mileage and non-reusable supplies of a licensed air ambulance company to transport you from the area where you are first disabled to the nearest *hospital* where appropriate treatment is provided if, and only if, such services are *medically necessary* and ground ambulance service is inadequate.
4. Monitoring, electrocardiograms (EKGs; ECGs), cardiac defibrillation, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and administration of oxygen and intravenous (IV) solutions in connection with ambulance service. An appropriately licensed person must render the services.

* If you have an *emergency* medical condition that requires an emergency response, please call the "911" emergency response system if you are in an area where the system is established and operating.

Diagnostic Services. Outpatient diagnostic imaging and laboratory services. Imaging procedures, including, but not limited to, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computerized Tomography (CT scans), Positron Emission Tomography (PET scan), Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (MRS scan), Magnetic Resonance Angiogram (MRA scan), and nuclear cardiac imaging are subject to pre-service review to determine medical necessity. You may call the toll-free customer service telephone number on your identification card to find out if an imaging procedure requires pre-service review. See UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM for details.

Radiation Therapy

Chemotherapy

Hemodialysis Treatment

Prosthetic Devices

1. Breast prostheses following a mastectomy.
2. *Prosthetic devices* to restore a method of speaking when required as a result of a covered *medically necessary* laryngectomy.
3. We will pay for other *medically necessary prosthetic devices*, including:
 - a. Surgical implants;
 - b. Artificial limbs or eyes;
 - c. The first pair of contact lenses or eye glasses when required as a result of a covered *medically necessary* eye surgery;
 - d. Therapeutic shoes and inserts for the prevention and treatment of diabetes-related foot complications; and
 - e. Orthopedic footwear used as an integral part of a brace; shoe inserts that are custom molded to the patient.

Durable Medical Equipment. Rental or purchase of dialysis equipment; dialysis supplies. Rental or purchase of other medical equipment and supplies which are:

1. Of no further use when medical needs end (but not disposable);
2. For the exclusive use of the patient;
3. Not primarily for comfort or hygiene;

4. Not for environmental control or for exercise; and
5. Manufactured specifically for medical use.

We will determine whether the item satisfies the conditions above.

Pediatric Asthma Equipment and Supplies. The following items and services when required for the *medically necessary* treatment of asthma in a dependent *child*:

1. Nebulizers, including face masks and tubing, inhaler spacers, and peak flow meters. These items are covered under the *plan's* medical benefits and are not subject to any limitations or maximums that apply to coverage for durable medical equipment (see "Durable Medical Equipment").
2. Education for pediatric asthma, including education to enable the *child* to properly use the items listed above. This education will be covered under the *plan's* benefits for office visits to a *physician*.

Blood. Blood transfusions, including blood processing and the cost of unreplaced blood and blood products.

Charges for the collection, processing and storage of self-donated blood are covered, but only when specifically collected for a planned and covered procedure. We will pay a maximum of **\$100** for each such surgical procedure.

Prescription Drugs and Medications. Drugs and medicines approved for general use by the Food and Drug Administration that are available only if prescribed by a *physician*. The drugs or medicine must be dispensed by a *physician* or a licensed pharmacist. Also included are drugs prescribed for *mental or nervous disorders* or substance abuse, oral contraceptives, injectable insulin prescribed by a *physician*, and formulas prescribed by a *physician* for the treatment of phenylketonuria.

Dental Care

1. **Admissions for Dental Care.** Listed inpatient *hospital* services for up to three days during a *hospital stay*, when such *stay* is required for dental treatment and has been ordered by a *physician* (M.D.) and a dentist (D.D.S. or D.M.D.). We will make the final determination as to whether the dental treatment could have been safely rendered in another setting due to the nature of the procedure or your medical condition. *Hospital stays* for the purpose of administering general anesthesia are not considered necessary and are not covered except as specified in #2, below.

2. **General Anesthesia.** General anesthesia and associated facility charges when your clinical status or underlying medical condition requires that dental procedures be rendered in a *hospital* or *ambulatory surgical center*. This applies only if (a) the *insured person* is less than seven years old, (b) the *insured person* is developmentally disabled, or (c) the *insured person's* health is compromised and general anesthesia is *medically necessary*. Charges for the dental procedure itself, including professional fees of a dentist, are not covered.
3. **Dental Injury.** Services of a *physician* (M.D.) or dentist (D.D.S. or D.M.D.) solely to treat an *accidental injury* to natural teeth. Coverage shall be limited to only such services that are *medically necessary* to repair the damage done by the *accidental injury* and/or restore function lost as a direct result of the *accidental injury*. Damage to natural teeth due to chewing or biting is not *accidental injury*.
4. **Cleft Palate.** *Medically necessary* dental or orthodontic services that are an integral part of reconstructive surgery for cleft palate procedures. "Cleft palate" means a condition that may include cleft palate, cleft lip, or other craniofacial anomalies associated with cleft palate.

Pregnancy and Maternity Care (Insured Employee, Spouse or Domestic Partner Only)

1. All medical benefits when provided for the *insured employee's*, *spouse's* or *domestic partner's* pregnancy or maternity care, including diagnosis of genetic disorders in cases of high-risk pregnancy. Inpatient *hospital* benefits in connection with childbirth will be provided for at least 48 hours following a normal delivery or 96 hours following a cesarean section, unless the mother and her *physician* decide on an earlier discharge.
2. Medical *hospital* benefits for routine nursery care of a newborn *child*, if the *child's* natural mother is an *insured employee*, enrolled *spouse*, or a *domestic partner*.

Organ and Tissue Transplants. Services provided in connection with a non-investigative organ or tissue transplant, if you are: (1) the organ or tissue recipient; or (2) the organ or tissue donor.

If you are the recipient, an organ or tissue donor who is not an *insured person* is also eligible for services as described. Benefits are reduced by any amounts paid or payable by that donor's own coverage.

Covered expense does not include charges for services received without first obtaining pre-service review from us, or which are provided at a facility other than an approved transplant center. See UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM.

Mental or Nervous Disorders or Substance Abuse. Covered services shown below for the *medically necessary* treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* or substance abuse.

1. Inpatient *hospital* services as stated in the "Hospital" provision of this section, services from a *residential treatment center*, and visits to a *day treatment center*.
2. *Physician* visits during a covered inpatient *stay*.
3. *Physician* visits for outpatient psychotherapy or psychological testing or outpatient rehabilitative care (such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, or speech therapy) for the treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* or substance abuse.

Treatment for substance abuse does not include smoking cessation programs, nor treatment for nicotine dependency or tobacco use.

Preventive Care Services. Outpatient services and office visits provided in connection with *preventive care services* as shown below. The *calendar year* deductible will not apply to these services. No copayment will apply to these services.

1. A *physician's* services for routine physical examinations.
2. Immunizations prescribed by a examining *physician*.
3. Radiology and laboratory services and tests ordered by the examining *physician* in connection with a routine physical examination, excluding any such tests related to an illness or injury. Those radiology and laboratory services and tests related to an illness or injury will be covered as any other medical service available under the terms and conditions of the provision "Diagnostic Services".
4. Health screenings as ordered by the examining *physician* for the following: breast cancer, cervical cancer, including human papillomavirus (HPV), prostate cancer, colorectal cancer, and other medically accepted cancer screening tests, blood lead levels, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes mellitus, cholesterol, and obesity.
5. Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing, regardless of whether the testing is related to a primary diagnosis.

6. Preventive counseling and risk factor reduction intervention services in connection with tobacco use and tobacco use-related diseases.

This list of *preventive care services* is not exhaustive. Preventive tests and screenings with a rating of A or B in the current recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), or those supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will be covered with no copayment and will not apply to the *calendar year* deductible.

You may call Customer Service using the number on your ID card for additional information about these services. You may also view the federal government's web sites:

<http://www.healthcare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html>

<http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstfix.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip/>

Hearing Aid Services. The following hearing aid services are covered when provided by or purchased as a result of a written recommendation from an otolaryngologist or a state-certified audiologist.

1. Audiological evaluations to measure the extent of hearing loss and determine the most appropriate make and model of hearing aid. These evaluations will be covered under *plan* benefits for office visits to *physicians*.
2. Hearing aids (monaural or binaural) including ear mold(s), the hearing aid instrument, batteries, cords and other ancillary equipment.
3. Visits for fitting, counseling, adjustments and repairs for a one year period after receiving the covered hearing aid.

Benefits are provided for one hearing aid per ear every three years.

No benefits will be provided for the following:

1. Charges for a hearing aid which exceeds specifications prescribed for the correction of hearing loss, or for more than one hearing aid per ear every three years.
2. Surgically implanted hearing devices (i.e., cochlear implants, audient bone conduction devices). *Medically necessary* surgically implanted hearing devices may be covered under your *plan's* benefits for prosthetic devices (see "Prosthetic Devices").

Breast Cancer. Services and supplies provided in connection with the screening for, diagnosis of, and treatment for breast cancer whether due to illness or injury, including:

1. Diagnostic mammogram examinations in connection with the treatment of a diagnosed illness or injury. Routine mammograms will be covered initially under the Preventive Care Services benefit.
2. Mastectomy and lymph node dissection; complications from a mastectomy including lymphedema.
3. Reconstructive surgery of both breasts performed to restore and achieve symmetry following a *medically necessary* mastectomy.
4. Breast prostheses following a mastectomy (see "Prosthetic Devices").

This coverage is provided according to the terms and conditions of this *plan* that apply to all other medical conditions.

Cancer Clinical Trials. Coverage is provided for services and supplies for routine patient care costs, as defined below, in connection with phase I, phase II, phase III and phase IV cancer clinical trials if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The treatment provided in a clinical trial must either:
 - a. Involve a *drug* that is exempt under federal regulations from a new drug application, or
 - b. Be approved by (i) one of the National Institutes of Health, (ii) the federal Food and Drug Administration in the form of an investigational new drug application, (iii) the United States Department of Defense, or (iv) the United States Veteran's Administration.
2. You must be diagnosed with cancer to be eligible for participation in these clinical trials.
3. Participation in such clinical trials must be recommended by your *physician* after determining participation has a meaningful potential to benefit the *insured person*.
4. For the purpose of this provision, a clinical trial must have a therapeutic intent. Clinical trials to just test toxicity are not included in this coverage.

Routine patient care costs means the costs associated with the provision of services, including drugs, items, devices and services which would otherwise be covered under the *plan*, including health care services which are:

1. Typically provided absent a clinical trial.
2. Required solely for the provision of the investigational drug, item, device or service.
3. Clinically appropriate monitoring of the investigational item or service.
4. Prevention of complications arising from the provision of the investigational drug, item, device, or service.
5. Reasonable and necessary care arising from the provision of the investigational drug, item, device, or service, including the diagnosis or treatment of the complications.

Routine patient care costs do not include any of the items listed below. You will be responsible for the costs associated with any of the following, in addition to the costs of non-covered services.

1. *Drugs* or devices not approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration that are associated with the clinical trial.
2. Services other than health care services, such as travel, housing, companion expenses and other nonclinical expenses that you may require as a result of the treatment provided for the purposes of the clinical trial.
3. Any item or service provided solely to satisfy data collection and analysis needs not used in the clinical management of the patient.
4. Health care services that, except for the fact they are provided in a clinical trial, are otherwise specifically excluded from the *plan*.
5. Health care services customarily provided by the research sponsors free of charge to *insured persons* enrolled in the trial.

Physical Therapy, Physical Medicine and Occupational Therapy.

The following services provided by a *physician* under a treatment plan:

1. Physical therapy and physical medicine provided on an outpatient basis for the treatment of illness or injury including the therapeutic use of heat, cold, exercise, electricity, ultra violet radiation, manipulation of the spine, or massage for the purpose of improving circulation, strengthening muscles, or encouraging the return of motion. (This includes many types of care which are customarily provided by chiropractors, physical therapists and osteopaths.)
2. Occupational therapy provided on an outpatient basis when the ability to perform daily life tasks has been lost or reduced by illness or injury including programs which are designed to rehabilitate mentally, physically or emotionally handicapped persons. Occupational therapy programs are designed to maximize or improve a patient's upper extremity function, perceptual motor skills and ability to function in daily living activities.

Benefits are not payable for care provided to relieve general soreness or for conditions that may be expected to improve without treatment. For the purposes of this benefit, the term "visit" shall include any visit by a *physician* in that *physician's* office, or in any other outpatient setting, during which one or more of the services covered under this limited benefit are rendered, even if other services are provided during the same visit.

Up to 24 visits in a *year* for all covered services are payable. But, if we determine that an additional period of physical therapy, physical medicine or occupational therapy is *medically necessary*, we will authorize a specific number of additional visits.

Such additional visits are not payable if pre-service review is not obtained. (See UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM.)

If we apply *covered expense* toward the Calendar Year Deductible and do not provide payment, that visit will be included in the visit maximum (24 visits) for that *year*.

Contraceptives. Services and supplies provided in connection with the following methods of contraception:

- Injectable drugs and implants for birth control, administered in a *physician's* office, if *medically necessary*.
- Intrauterine contraceptive devices (IUDs) and diaphragms, dispensed by a *physician* if *medically necessary*.

- Professional services of a *physician* in connection with the prescribing, fitting, and insertion of intrauterine contraceptive devices or diaphragms.

If your *physician* determines that none of these contraceptive methods are appropriate for you based on your medical or personal history, coverage will be provided for another prescription contraceptive method that is approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and prescribed by your *physician*.

Outpatient Speech Therapy. Outpatient speech therapy following injury or organic disease.

Acupuncture. The services of a *physician* for acupuncture treatment to treat a disease, illness or injury, including a patient history visit, physical examination, treatment planning and treatment evaluation, electroacupuncture, cupping and moxibustion. We will pay for up to 12 visits during a *calendar year*, and for up to a maximum of **\$30** for all covered services rendered during each visit.

If we apply *covered expense* toward the Calendar Year Deductible and do not provide payment, that visit is included in the visit maximum (12 visits) for that *year*.

Diabetes. Services and supplies provided for the treatment of diabetes, including:

1. The following equipment and supplies:
 - a. Blood glucose monitors, including monitors designed to assist the visually impaired, and blood glucose testing strips.
 - b. Insulin pumps.
 - c. Pen delivery systems for insulin administration (non-disposable).
 - d. Visual aids (but not eyeglasses) to help the visually impaired to properly dose insulin.
 - e. Podiatric devices, such as therapeutic shoes and shoe inserts, to treat diabetes-related complications.

Items a through d above are covered under your *plan's* benefits for durable medical equipment (see "Durable Medical Equipment"). Item e above is covered under your *plan's* benefits for prosthetic devices (see "Prosthetic Devices").

2. Diabetes education program which:
 - a. Is designed to teach an *insured person* who is a patient and covered members of the patient's family about the disease process and the daily management of diabetic therapy;
 - b. Includes self-management training, education, and medical nutrition therapy to enable the *insured person* to properly use the equipment, supplies, and medications necessary to manage the disease; and
 - c. Is supervised by a *physician*.

Diabetes education services are covered under *plan* benefits for office visits to *physicians*.

3. The following medications and supplies:
 - a. Insulin, glucagon, and other prescription *drugs* for the treatment of diabetes.
 - b. Insulin syringes, disposable pen delivery systems for insulin administration.
 - c. Testing strips, lancets, and alcohol swabs.

These items are covered as prescription drugs (see "Prescription Drugs and Medications").

Jaw Joint Disorders. We will pay for splint therapy or surgical treatment for disorders or conditions of the joints linking the jawbones and the skull (the temporomandibular joints), including the complex of muscles, nerves and other tissues related to those joints.

Special Food Products. Special food products and formulas that are part of a diet prescribed by a *physician* for the treatment of phenylketonuria (PKU). Most formulas used in the treatment of PKU are obtained from a pharmacy and are covered as prescription drugs (see "Prescription Drugs and Medications"). Special food products that are not available from a pharmacy are covered as medical supplies under your *plan's* medical benefits.

Prescription Drug for Abortion. Mifepristone is covered when provided under the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved treatment regimen.

MEDICAL CARE THAT IS NOT COVERED

No payment will be made under this *plan* for expenses incurred for or in connection with any of the items below. (The titles given to these exclusions and limitations are for ease of reference only; they are not meant to be an integral part of the exclusions and limitations and do not modify their meaning.)

Not Medically Necessary. Services or supplies that are not *medically necessary*, as defined.

Experimental or Investigative. Any *experimental* or *investigative* procedure or medication. But, if you are denied benefits because it is determined that the requested treatment is *experimental* or *investigative*, you may request an independent medical review as described in REVIEW OF DENIALS OF EXPERIMENTAL OR INVESTIGATIVE TREATMENT.

Crime or Nuclear Energy. Conditions that result from: (1) your commission of or attempt to commit a felony, as long as any injuries are not a result of a medical condition or an act of domestic violence; or (2) any release of nuclear energy, whether or not the result of war, when government funds are available for treatment of illness or injury arising from such release of nuclear energy.

Uninsured. Services received before your *effective date* or after your coverage ends, except as specifically stated under EXTENSION OF BENEFITS.

Non-Licensed Providers. Treatment or services rendered by non-licensed health care providers and treatment or services for which the provider of services is not required to be licensed. This includes treatment or services from a non-licensed provider under the supervision of a licensed *physician*, except as specifically provided or arranged by us.

Excess Amounts. Any amounts in excess of *covered expense* or any Medical Benefit Maximum.

Work-Related. Work-related conditions if benefits are recovered or can be recovered, either by adjudication, settlement or otherwise, under any workers' compensation, employer's liability law or occupational disease law, even if you do not claim those benefits.

Government Treatment. Any services actually given to you by a local, state, or federal government agency, or by a public school system or school district, except when payment under this *plan* is expressly required by federal or state law. We will not cover payment for these services if you are not required to pay for them or they are given to you for free.

Services of Relatives. Professional services received from a person who lives in your home or who is related to you by blood or marriage.

Voluntary Payment. Services for which you are not legally obligated to pay. Services for which you are not charged. Services for which no charge is made in the absence of insurance coverage, except services received at a non-governmental charitable research *hospital*. Such a *hospital* must meet the following guidelines:

1. It must be internationally known as being devoted mainly to medical research;
2. At least **10%** of its yearly budget must be spent on research not directly related to patient care;
3. At least one-third of its gross income must come from donations or grants other than gifts or payments for patient care;
4. It must accept patients who are unable to pay; and
5. Two-thirds of its patients must have conditions directly related to the *hospital's* research.

Not Specifically Listed. Services not specifically listed in this *plan* as covered services.

Private Contracts. Services or supplies provided pursuant to a private contract between the *insured person* and a provider, for which reimbursement under the Medicare program is prohibited, as specified in Section 1802 (42 U.S.C. 1395a) of Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

Inpatient Diagnostic Tests. Inpatient room and board charges in connection with a *hospital stay* primarily for diagnostic tests which could have been performed safely on an outpatient basis.

Mental or Nervous Disorders or Substance Abuse. Academic or educational testing, counseling, and remediation. Any treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* or substance abuse, including rehabilitative care in relation to these conditions, except as specifically stated in the "Mental or Nervous Disorders or Substance Abuse" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Any educational treatment or any services that are educational, vocational, or training in nature except as specifically provided or arranged by us.

Nicotine Use. Smoking cessation programs or treatment of nicotine or tobacco use. Smoking cessation *drugs*.

Orthodontia. Braces and other orthodontic appliances or services, except as specifically stated in the "Reconstructive Surgery" or "Dental Care" provisions of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Dental Services or Supplies. Dental plates, bridges, crowns, caps or other dental prostheses, dental implants, dental services, extraction of teeth, or treatment to the teeth or gums, or treatment to or for any disorders for the jaw joint, except as specifically stated in the "Reconstructive Surgery", "Dental Care" or "Jaw Joint Disorders" provisions of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Cosmetic dental surgery or other dental services for beautification.

Hearing Aids or Tests. Hearing aids, except as specifically stated in the "Hearing Aid Services" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Routine hearing tests, except as specifically provided as part of a routine exam under the "Preventive Care Services" and "Hearing Aid Services" provisions of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Optometric Services or Supplies. Optometric services, eye exercises including orthoptics. Routine eye exams and routine eye refractions, except as specifically provided under the "Preventive Care Services" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Eyeglasses or contact lenses, except as specifically stated in the "Prosthetic Devices" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Outpatient Occupational Therapy. Outpatient occupational therapy, except by a *home health agency* or *hospice* as specifically stated in the "Home Health Care", "Hospice Care", or "Physical Therapy, Physical Medicine And Occupational Therapy" provisions of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Outpatient Speech Therapy. Outpatient speech therapy except as stated in the "Outpatient Speech Therapy" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Scalp hair prostheses. Scalp hair prostheses including wigs or any form of hair replacement.

Cosmetic Surgery. Cosmetic surgery or other services performed solely for beautification or to alter or reshape normal (including aged) structures or tissues of the body to improve appearance. This exclusion does not apply to reconstructive surgery (that is, surgery performed to correct deformities caused by congenital or developmental abnormalities, illness, or injury for the purpose of improving bodily function or symptomatology or to create a normal appearance), including surgery performed to restore symmetry following mastectomy. Cosmetic surgery does not become reconstructive surgery because of psychological or psychiatric reasons.

Commercial Weight Loss Programs. Weight loss programs, whether or not they are pursued under medical or *physician* supervision, unless specifically listed as covered in this *plan*.

This exclusion includes, but is not limited to, commercial weight loss programs (Weight Watchers, Jenny Craig, LA Weight Loss) and fasting programs.

This exclusion does not apply to *medically necessary* treatments for morbid obesity or dietary evaluations and counseling, and behavioral modification programs for the treatment of anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa. Surgical treatment for morbid obesity is covered as stated in the "Bariatric Surgery" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Sex Transformation. Any procedures or treatments to change characteristics of the body to those of the opposite sex.

Sterilization Reversal. Reversal of sterilization.

Infertility Treatment. Any services or supplies furnished in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of *infertility*, including, but not limited to, diagnostic tests, medication, surgery, artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization, sterilization reversal, and gamete intrafallopian transfer.

Surrogate Mother Services. For any services or supplies provided to a person not covered under the plan in connection with a surrogate pregnancy (including, but not limited to, the bearing of a child by another woman for an infertile couple).

Pregnancy and Maternity Care. A dependent daughter's pregnancy and maternity care.

Orthopedic Supplies. Orthopedic shoes (other than shoes joined to braces) or non-custom molded and cast shoe inserts, except for therapeutic shoes and inserts for the prevention and treatment of diabetes-related foot complications as specifically stated in the "Prosthetic Devices" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Air Conditioners. Air purifiers, air conditioners, or humidifiers.

Custodial Care or Rest Cures. Inpatient room and board charges in connection with a *hospital stay* primarily for environmental change or physical therapy. *Custodial care* or rest cures, except as specifically provided under the "Hospice Care" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Services provided by a rest home, a home for the aged, a nursing home or any similar facility. Services provided by a *skilled nursing facility*, except as specifically stated in the "Skilled Nursing Facility" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Chronic Pain. Treatment of chronic pain, except as specifically provided under the "Hospice Care" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Health Club Memberships. Health club memberships, exercise equipment, charges from a physical fitness instructor or personal trainer, or any other charges for activities, equipment or facilities used for developing or maintaining physical fitness, even if ordered by a *physician*. This exclusion also applies to health spas.

Personal Items. Any supplies for comfort, hygiene or beautification.

Education or Counseling. Any educational treatment or nutritional counseling, or any services that are educational, vocational, or training in nature except as specifically provided or arranged by us, or except as specifically stated under the "Pediatric Asthma Equipment and Supplies" or "Diabetes" provisions of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Food or dietary supplements, except as specifically stated under the "Special Food Products" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Food or Dietary Supplements. Nutritional and/or dietary supplements, except as provided in this *plan* or as required by law. This exclusion includes, but is not limited to, those nutritional formulas and dietary supplements that can be purchased over the counter, which by law do not require either a written prescription or dispensing by a licensed pharmacist.

Telephone and Facsimile Machine Consultations. Consultations provided by telephone or facsimile machine.

Routine Exams or Tests. Routine physical exams or tests required by employment or government authority.

Acupuncture. Acupuncture treatment except as specifically stated in the "Acupuncture" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Acupressure, or massage to control pain, treat illness or promote health by applying pressure to one or more specific areas of the body based on dermatomes or acupuncture points.

Eye Surgery for Refractive Defects. Any eye surgery solely or primarily for the purpose of correcting refractive defects of the eye such as nearsightedness (myopia) and/or astigmatism. Contact lenses and eyeglasses required as a result of this surgery.

Physical Therapy or Physical Medicine. Services of a *physician* for physical therapy or physical medicine, except when provided during a covered inpatient confinement, or as specifically stated in the "Home Health Care", "Hospice Care", or "Physical Therapy, Physical Medicine and Occupational Therapy" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Prescription Drugs and Medications. Any drug or medicine requiring or dispensed with a written prescription of a *physician*, including insulin, except as specifically stated in the "Prescription Drugs and Medications" provision of MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED. Non-prescription, over-the-counter patent or proprietary drugs or medicines. Cosmetics, health or beauty aids.

Contraceptive Devices. Contraceptive devices prescribed for birth control except as specifically stated in the "Contraceptives" and "Prescription Drugs and Medications" provisions in MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

Diabetic Supplies. Prescription and non-prescription diabetic supplies, except as specifically stated in "YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS" section of this booklet.

Private Duty Nursing. Inpatient or outpatient services of a private duty nurse.

Lifestyle Programs. Programs to alter one's lifestyle which may include but are not limited to diet, exercise, imagery or nutrition. This exclusion will not apply to cardiac rehabilitation programs approved by us.

Clinical Trials. Services and supplies in connection with clinical trials, except as specifically stated in the "Cancer Clinical Trials" provision under the section MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.

PRE-EXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSION

No payment will be made for services or supplies for the treatment of a *pre-existing condition*. This exclusion applies only to conditions for which medical advice, diagnosis, care, or treatment was recommended or received within a six-month period prior to your coverage under this *plan*. Generally, this six-month period ends the day before your coverage becomes effective. However if you were subject to a waiting period for coverage, the six-month period ends on the day before the waiting period begins. The *pre-existing condition* exclusion does not apply to pregnancy nor to an *insured person* who is under age 19.

This exclusion may last up to six months from your first day of coverage or, if you were in a waiting period, from the first day of your waiting period (see "Eligibility Date" under the section HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS). However, you can reduce the length of this exclusion period by the number of days of your prior *creditable coverage*. Most prior health coverage is *creditable coverage* and can be used to reduce the *pre-existing condition* exclusion if you have not experienced a significant break in coverage. The maximum allowable break in coverage is 180 days if your prior coverage was provided through an employer and ended because your employment (or the person's employment through whom you had this coverage) ended, the availability of coverage through employment or sponsored by an employer has terminated, or an employer's contribution toward health coverage has terminated. For prior coverage that was not provided through an employer, such as individual coverage or coverage through a government program such as Medicaid, the maximum allowable break in coverage is 63 days. Please see "Creditable Coverage" in the DEFINITIONS section for a complete list of the types of coverage for which credit is given.

To reduce the six-month exclusion period by your *creditable coverage*, you should give us a copy of any certificates of creditable coverage you have. There is no time limit within which you must provide a certificate in order to receive credit for your prior coverage. If you do not have a certificate, but you do have prior health coverage, we will help you obtain one from your prior plan or carrier. There are also other ways that you can show you have *creditable coverage*. Please contact us if you need help demonstrating *creditable coverage*. All questions about the *pre-existing condition* exclusion and *creditable coverage* should be directed to the customer service telephone number listed on your identification card.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTS OF THIRD PARTIES

Under some circumstances, an *insured person* may need services under this *plan* for which a third party may be liable or legally responsible by reason of negligence, an intentional act or breach of any legal obligation. In that event, we will provide the benefits of this *plan* subject to the following:

1. We will automatically have a lien, to the extent of benefits provided, upon any recovery, whether by settlement, judgment or otherwise, that you receive from the third party, the third party's insurer, or the third party's guarantor. The lien will be in the amount of benefits we paid under this *plan* for the treatment of the illness, disease, injury or condition for which the third party is liable.
 - If we paid the provider other than on a capitated basis, our lien will not be more than amount we paid for those services.
 - If we paid the provider on a capitated basis, our lien will not be more than 80% of the usual and customary charges for those services in the geographic area in which they were given.
 - If you hired an attorney to gain your recovery from the third party, our lien will not be for more than one-third of the money due you under any final judgment, compromise, or settlement agreement.
 - If you did not hire an attorney, our lien will not be for more than one-half of the money due you under any final judgment, compromise or settlement agreement.
 - If a final judgment includes a special finding by a judge, jury, or arbitrator that you were partially at fault, our lien will be reduced by the same comparative fault percentage by which your recovery was reduced.
 - Our lien is subject to a pro rata reduction equal to your reasonable attorney's fees and costs in line with the common fund doctrine.
2. You must advise us in writing, within 60 days of filing a claim against the third party and take necessary action, furnish such information and assistance, and execute such papers as we may require to facilitate enforcement of our rights. You must not take action which may prejudice our rights or interests under your *plan*. Failure to give us such notice or to cooperate with us, or actions that prejudice our rights or interests will be a material breach of this *plan* and will result in your being personally responsible for reimbursing us.

3. We will be entitled to collect on our lien even if the amount you or anyone recovered for you (or your estate, parent or legal guardian) from or for the account of such third party as compensation for the injury, illness or condition is less than the actual loss you suffered.

COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

If you are covered by more than one group medical plan, your benefits under This Plan will be coordinated with the benefits of those Other Plans, as shown below. These coordination provisions apply separately to each *insured person, per calendar year*, and are largely determined by California law. Any coverage you have for medical or dental benefits will be coordinated as shown below.

DEFINITIONS

The meanings of key terms used in this section are shown below. Whenever any of the key terms shown below appear in these provisions, the first letter of each word will be capitalized. When you see these capitalized words, you should refer to this "Definitions" provision.

Allowable Expense is any necessary, reasonable and customary item of expense which is at least partially covered by at least one Other Plan covering the person for whom claim is made. When a Plan provides benefits in the form of services rather than cash payments, the reasonable cash value of each service rendered will be deemed to be both an Allowable Expense and a benefit paid.

Other Plan is any of the following:

1. Group, blanket or franchise insurance coverage;
2. Group service plan contract, group practice, group individual practice and other group prepayment coverages;
3. Group coverage under labor-management trustee plans, union benefit organization plans, employer organization plans, employee benefit organization plans or self-insured employee benefit plans.
4. Medicare. This does not include Medicare when, by law, its benefits are secondary to those of any private insurance program or other non-governmental program.

The term "Other Plan" refers separately to each agreement, policy, contract, or other arrangement for services and benefits, and only to that portion of such agreement, policy, contract, or arrangement which reserves the right to take the services or benefits of other plans into consideration in determining benefits.

Principal Plan is the plan which will have its benefits determined first.

This Plan is that portion of this *plan* which provides benefits subject to this provision.

EFFECT ON BENEFITS

This provision will apply in determining a person's benefits under This Plan for any *calendar year* if the benefits under This Plan and any Other Plans, exceed the Allowable Expenses for that *calendar year*.

1. If This Plan is the Principal Plan, then its benefits will be determined first without taking into account the benefits or services of any Other Plan.
2. If This Plan is not the Principal Plan, then its benefits may be reduced so that the benefits and services of all the plans do not exceed Allowable Expense.
3. The benefits of This Plan will never be greater than the sum of the benefits that would have been paid if you were covered under This Plan only.

ORDER OF BENEFITS DETERMINATION

The following rules determine the order in which benefits are payable:

1. A plan which has no Coordination of Benefits provision pays before a plan which has a Coordination of Benefits provision. This would include Medicare in all cases, except when the law requires that This Plan pays before Medicare.
2. A plan which covers you as an *insured employee* pays before a plan which covers you as a dependent. But, if you are retired and eligible for Medicare, Medicare pays (a) after the plan which covers you as a dependent of an active employee, but (b) before the plan which covers you as a retired *employee*.

For example: You are covered as a retired employee under this plan and eligible for Medicare (Medicare would normally pay first). You are also covered as a dependent of an active employee under another plan (in which case Medicare would pay second). In this situation, the plan which covers you as a dependent will pay first and the plan which covers you as a retired employee would pay last.

3. For a dependent *child* covered under plans of two parents, the plan of the parent whose birthday falls earlier in the *calendar year* pays before the plan of the parent whose birthday falls later in the *calendar year*. But if one plan does not have a birthday rule provision, the provisions of that plan determine the order of benefits.

Exception to rule 3: For a dependent *child* of parents who are divorced or separated, the following rules will be used in place of Rule 3:

- a. If the parent with custody of that *child* for whom a claim has been made has not remarried, then the plan of the parent with custody that covers that *child* as a dependent pays first.
 - b. If the parent with custody of that *child* for whom a claim has been made has remarried, then the order in which benefits are paid will be as follows:
 - i. The plan which covers that *child* as a dependent of the parent with custody.
 - ii. The plan which covers that *child* as a dependent of the stepparent (married to the parent with custody).
 - iii. The plan which covers that *child* as a dependent of the parent without custody.
 - iv. The plan which covers that *child* as a dependent of the stepparent (married to the parent without custody).
 - c. Regardless of a and b above, if there is a court decree which establishes a parent's financial responsibility for that *child's* health care coverage, a plan which covers that *child* as a dependent of that parent pays first.
4. The plan covering you as a laid-off or retired employee or as a dependent of a laid-off or retired employee pays after a plan covering you as other than a laid-off or retired employee or the dependent of such a person. But if either plan does not have a provision regarding laid-off or retired employees, provision 6 applies.
 5. The plan covering you under a continuation of coverage provision in accordance with state or federal law pays after a plan covering you as an employee, a dependent or otherwise, but not under a continuation of coverage provision in accordance with state or federal law. If the order of benefit determination provisions of the Other Plan do not agree under these circumstances with the Order of Benefit Determination provisions of This Plan, this rule will not apply.

6. When the above rules do not establish the order of payment, the plan on which you have been enrolled the longest pays first unless two of the plans have the same effective date. In this case, Allowable Expense is split equally between the two plans.

OUR RIGHTS UNDER THIS PROVISION

Responsibility For Timely Notice. We are not responsible for coordination of benefits unless timely information has been provided by the requesting party regarding the application of this provision.

Reasonable Cash Value. If any Other Plan provides benefits in the form of services rather than cash payment, the reasonable cash value of services provided will be considered Allowable Expense. The reasonable cash value of such service will be considered a benefit paid, and our liability reduced accordingly.

Facility of Payment. If payments which should have been made under This Plan have been made under any Other Plan, we have the right to pay that Other Plan any amount we determine to be warranted to satisfy the intent of this provision. Any such amount will be considered a benefit paid under This Plan, and such payment will fully satisfy our liability under this provision.

Right of Recovery. If payments made under This Plan exceed the maximum payment necessary to satisfy the intent of this provision, we have the right to recover that excess amount from any persons or organizations to or for whom those payments were made, or from any insurance company or service plan.

BENEFITS FOR MEDICARE ELIGIBLE INSURED PERSONS

For Active Employees and Family Members. If you are a *full-time employee* or a *family member* of a *full-time employee*, and entitled to Medicare, you will receive the full benefits of this *plan*, except as listed below:

1. You are receiving treatment for end-stage renal disease following the first 30 months you are entitled to end-stage renal disease benefits under Medicare; or
2. You are entitled to Medicare benefits as a disabled person, unless you have a current employment status as determined by Medicare rules through a *group* of 100 or more employees (according to federal OBRA legislation).

In cases where exceptions 1 or 2 apply, our payment will be determined according to the provisions in the section entitled COORDINATION OF BENEFITS and the provision "Coordinating Benefits With Medicare", below.

For Retired Employees and Their Spouses. If you are a *retired employee* or the spouse of a *retired employee* and you are eligible for Medicare Part A because you made the required number of quarterly contributions to the Social Security System, your benefits under this *plan* will be subject to the section entitled COORDINATION OF BENEFITS and the provision "Coordinating Benefits With Medicare", below.

Coordinating Benefits With Medicare. We will not provide benefits under this *plan* that duplicate any benefits to which you would be entitled under Medicare. This exclusion applies to all parts of Medicare in which you can enroll without paying additional premium. If you are required to pay additional premium for any part of Medicare, this exclusion will apply to that part of Medicare only if you are enrolled in that part.

If you are entitled to Medicare, your Medicare coverage will not affect the services covered under this *plan* except as follows:

1. Medicare must provide benefits first to any services covered both by Medicare and under this *plan*.
2. For services you receive that are covered both by Medicare and under this *plan*, coverage under this *plan* will apply only to Medicare deductibles, coinsurance, and other charges for covered services over and above what Medicare pays.
3. For any given claim, the combination of benefits provided by Medicare and the benefits provided under this *plan* will not exceed *covered expense* for the covered services.

We will apply any charges paid by Medicare for services covered under this *plan* toward your *plan* deductible, if any.

UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM

Benefits are provided only for *medically necessary* and appropriate services. Utilization Review is designed to work together with you and your provider to ensure you receive appropriate medical care and avoid unexpected out of pocket expense.

No benefits are payable, however, unless your coverage is in force at the time services are rendered, and the payment of benefits is subject to all the terms and requirements of this *plan*.

Important: The Utilization Review Program requirements described in this section do not apply when coverage under this *plan* is secondary to another plan providing benefits for you or your *family members*.

The utilization review program evaluates the medical necessity and appropriateness of care and the setting in which care is provided. You and your *physician* are advised if we have determined that services can be safely provided in an outpatient setting, or if an inpatient *stay* is recommended. Services that are *medically necessary* and appropriate are certified by us and monitored so that you know when it is no longer *medically necessary* and appropriate to continue those services.

It is your responsibility to determine whether a particular service requires pre-service authorization. Please read the following information that follows to assist you in this determination and please feel free to visit www.anthem.com or call the toll-free number for pre-service printed on your identification card if you have any questions about making this determination.

It is also your responsibility to see that your *physician* starts the utilization review process before scheduling you for any service subject to the utilization review program. If you receive any such service, and do not follow the procedures set forth in this section, your benefits will be reduced as shown in the "Effect on Benefits".

UTILIZATION REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

Utilization reviews are conducted for the following services:

- All inpatient *hospital stays* and *residential treatment center* admissions.
- *Facility-based care* for the treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* and substance abuse.
- Organ and tissue transplants.
- Visits for physical therapy, physical medicine and occupational therapy beyond those described under the "Physical Therapy, Physical Medicine and Occupational Therapy" provision of YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS: MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.
- Home health care.
- Admissions to a *skilled nursing facility*.

- Specific diagnostic procedures, including but not limited to: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computerized Tomography (CT scan), Positron Emission Tomography (PET scan), Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (MRS scan), Magnetic Resonance Angiogram (MRA scan), and Nuclear Cardiac Imaging. You may call the toll-free customer service telephone number on your identification card to find out if an imaging procedure requires pre-service review.

Exceptions: Utilization review is not required for inpatient *hospital stays* for the following services:

- Maternity care of 48 hours or less following a normal delivery or 96 hours or less following a cesarean section; and
- Mastectomy and lymph node dissection.

The stages of utilization review are:

1. **Pre-service review** determines in advance the medical necessity and appropriateness of certain procedures or admissions and the appropriate length of stay, if applicable. Pre-service review is required for the following services:
 - Scheduled, non-emergency inpatient *hospital stays* and *residential treatment center* admissions (except inpatient *stays* for maternity care or mastectomy and lymph node dissection).
 - *Facility-based care* for the treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* and substance abuse.
 - Organ and tissue transplants.
 - Visits for physical therapy, physical medicine and occupational therapy beyond those described under the "Physical Therapy, Physical Medicine and Occupational Therapy" provision of YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS: MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED.
 - Home health care.
 - Admissions to a *skilled nursing facility*.
 - Specific diagnostic procedures, including but not limited to: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computerized Tomography (CT scan), Positron Emission Tomography (PET scan), Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (MRS scan), Magnetic Resonance Angiogram (MRA scan) and Nuclear Cardiac Imaging.

2. **Concurrent review** determines whether services are *medically necessary* and appropriate when we are notified while service is ongoing, for example, an *emergency* admission to the *hospital*.
3. **Retrospective review** is performed to review services that have already been provided. This applies in cases when pre-service or concurrent review was not completed, or in order to evaluate and audit medical documentation subsequent to services being provided. Retrospective review may also be performed for services that continued longer than originally certified.

EFFECT ON BENEFITS

In order for the full benefits of this *plan* to be payable, the following criteria must be met:

1. The appropriate utilization reviews must be performed in accordance with this *plan*. When pre-service review is not performed as required for an inpatient *hospital* or *residential treatment center* admission or for *facility-based care* for the treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* and substance abuse, the benefits to which you would have been otherwise entitled will be subject to the Non-Certification Deductible shown in the SUMMARY OF BENEFITS.
2. When pre-service review is performed and the admission, procedure or service is determined to be *medically necessary* and appropriate, benefits will be provided for the following:
 - Scheduled, non-emergency inpatient *hospital stays* and *residential treatment center* admissions (except inpatient *stays* for maternity care or mastectomy and lymph node dissection).
 - *Facility-based care* for the treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* and substance abuse.
 - Authorizations for organ and tissue transplants will be provided only if the *physicians* on the surgical team and the facility in which the transplant is to take place are approved for the transplant requested.
 - An additional 12 visits for physical therapy, physical medicine and occupational therapy if you need more visits than is provided under the “Physical Therapy, Physical Medicine or Occupational Therapy” provision of YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS: MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED, if the treatment is due to post-neurological surgery, orthopedic surgery, cerebral vascular accident, third degree burns, head trauma or spinal cord injury.
 - Home health care services if:

- a. The services can be safely provided in your home, as certified by your attending *physician*;
 - b. Your attending *physician* manages and directs your medical care at home; and
 - c. Your attending *physician* has established a definitive treatment plan which must be consistent with your medical needs and lists the services to be provided by the *home health agency*.
- Services provided in a *skilled nursing facility* if you require daily skilled nursing or rehabilitation, as certified by your attending *physician*.
 - Select diagnostic procedures, including, but not limited to: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computerized Tomography (CT scans), Positron Emission Tomography (PET scan), Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (MRS scan), Magnetic Resonance Angiogram (MRA scan), and Nuclear Cardiac Imaging.

If you proceed with any services that have been determined to be not *medically necessary* and appropriate at any stage of the utilization review process, benefits will not be provided for those services.

3. Services that are not reviewed prior to or during service delivery will be reviewed retrospectively when the bill is submitted for benefit payment. If that review results in the determination that part or all of the services were not *medically necessary* and appropriate, benefits will not be paid for those services. Remaining benefits will be subject to previously noted reductions that apply when the required reviews are not obtained.

HOW TO OBTAIN UTILIZATION REVIEWS

Remember, it is always your responsibility to confirm that the review has been performed. If the review is not performed your benefits will be reduced as shown in the “Effect on Benefits”.

Pre-service Reviews

1. For all scheduled services that are subject to utilization review, you or your *physician* must initiate the pre-service review at least five working days prior to when you are scheduled to receive services. The toll-free telephone number for pre-service reviews is printed on your identification card.

2. If you do not receive the certified service within 60 days of the certification, or if the nature of the service changes, a new pre-service review must be obtained.
3. We will certify services that are *medically necessary* and appropriate. For inpatient *hospital* and *residential treatment center* stays, we will, if appropriate, certify a specific length of *stay* for approved services. For *facility-based care* for the treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* and substance abuse, we will, if appropriate, certify the type and level of services, as well as their duration. You, your *physician* and the provider of the service will receive a written confirmation showing this information.

Concurrent Reviews

1. If pre-service review was not performed, you or the provider of the service must contact us for concurrent review. For an *emergency* admission or procedure, we must be notified within one working day of the admission or procedure. The toll-free number is printed on your identification card.
2. When we determine that the service is *medically necessary* and appropriate, we will, depending upon the type of treatment or procedure, certify the service for a period of time that is medically appropriate. We will also determine the medically appropriate setting.
3. If we determine that the service is not *medically necessary* and appropriate, your *physician* will be notified by telephone no later than 24 hours following our decision. We will send written notice to you and your *physician* within two business days following our decision. However, care will not be discontinued until your *physician* has been notified and a plan of care that is appropriate for your needs has been agreed upon.

Retrospective Reviews

1. Retrospective review is performed when we are not notified of the service you received, and are therefore unable to perform the appropriate review prior to your discharge from the *hospital* or completion of outpatient treatment. It is also performed when pre-service or concurrent review has been done, but services continue longer than originally certified.

It may also be performed for the evaluation and audit of medical documentation after services have been provided, whether or not pre-service or concurrent review was performed.

2. Such services which have been retroactively determined to not be *medically necessary* and appropriate will be retrospectively denied certification.

THE MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW PROCESS

We work with you and your health care providers to cover *medically necessary* and appropriate care and services. While the types of services requiring review and the timing of the reviews may vary, we are committed to ensuring that reviews are performed in a timely and professional manner. The following information explains our review process.

1. A decision on the medical necessity of a pre-service request will be made no later than 5 business days from receipt of the information reasonably necessary to make the decision, and based on the nature of your medical condition.
2. A decision on the medical necessity of a concurrent request will be made no later than one business day from receipt of the information reasonably necessary to make the decision, and based on the nature of your medical condition. However, care will not be discontinued until your *physician* has been notified and a plan of care that is appropriate for your needs has been agreed upon.
3. A decision on the medical necessity of a retrospective review will be made and communicated in writing no later than 30 days from receipt of the information necessary to make the decision to you and your *physician*.
4. If we do not have the information we need, we will make every attempt to obtain that information from you or your *physician*. If we are unsuccessful, and a delay is anticipated, we will notify you and your *physician* of the delay and what we need to make a decision. We will also inform you of when a decision can be expected following receipt of the needed information.
5. All pre-service, concurrent and retrospective reviews for medical necessity are screened by clinically experienced, licensed personnel (called "Review Coordinators") using pre-established criteria and our medical policy. These criteria and policies are developed and approved by practicing providers not employed by us, and are evaluated at least annually and updated as standards of practice or technology change. Requests satisfying these criteria are certified as *medically necessary*. Review Coordinators are able to approve most requests.

6. A written confirmation including the specific service determined to be *medically necessary* will be sent to you and your provider no later than 2 business days after the decision, and your provider will be initially notified by telephone within 24 hours of the decision for pre-service and concurrent reviews.
7. If the request fails to satisfy these criteria or medical policy, the request is referred to a Peer Clinical Reviewer. Peer Clinical Reviewers are health professionals clinically competent to evaluate the specific clinical aspects of the request and render an opinion specific to the medical condition, procedure and/or treatment under review. Peer Clinical Reviewers are licensed in California with the same license category as the requesting provider. When the Peer Clinical Reviewer is unable to certify the service, the requesting *physician* is contacted by telephone for a discussion of the case. In many cases, services can be certified after this discussion. If the Peer Clinical Reviewer is still unable to certify the service, your provider will be given the option of having the request reviewed by a different Peer Clinical Reviewer.
8. Only the Peer Clinical Reviewer may determine that the proposed services are not *medically necessary* and appropriate. Your *physician* will be notified by telephone within 24 hours of a decision not to certify and will be informed at that time of how to request reconsideration. Written notice will be sent to you and the requesting provider within two business days of the decision. This written notice will include:
 - an explanation of the reason for the decision,
 - reference of the criteria used in the decision to modify or not certify the request,
 - the name and phone number of the Peer Clinical Reviewer making the decision to modify or not certify the request,
 - how to request reconsideration if you or your provider disagree with the decision.
9. Reviewers may be plan employees or an independent third party we choose at our sole and absolute discretion.
10. You or your *physician* may request copies of specific criteria and/or medical policy by writing to the address shown on your plan identification card. We disclose our medical necessity review procedures to health care providers through provider manuals and newsletters.

A determination of medical necessity does not guarantee payment or coverage. The determination that services are *medically necessary* is based on the clinical information provided. Payment is based on the terms of your coverage at the time of service. These terms include certain exclusions, limitations, and other conditions. Payment of benefits could be limited for a number of reasons, including:

- The information submitted with the claim differs from that given by phone;
- The service is excluded from coverage; or
- You are not eligible for coverage when the service is actually provided.

Revoking or modifying an authorization. An authorization for services or care may be revoked or modified prior to the services being rendered for reasons including but not limited to the following:

- Your coverage under this *plan* ends;
- The *policy* with the *group* terminates;
- You reach a benefit maximum that applies to the services in question;
- Your benefits under the *plan* change so that the services in question are no longer covered or are covered in a different way.

PERSONAL CASE MANAGEMENT

The personal case management program enables us to authorize you to obtain medically appropriate care in a more economical, cost-effective and coordinated manner during prolonged periods of intensive medical care. Through a case manager, we have the right to recommend an alternative plan of treatment which may include services not covered under this *plan*. It is not your right to receive personal case management, nor do we have an obligation to provide it; we provide these services at our sole and absolute discretion.

HOW PERSONAL CASE MANAGEMENT WORKS

Benefits for personal case management will be considered only when all of the following criteria are met:

1. You require extensive long-term treatment;
2. We anticipate that such treatment utilizing services or supplies covered under this *plan* will result in considerable cost;

3. Our cost-benefit analysis determines that the benefits payable under this *plan* for the alternative plan of treatment can be provided at a lower overall cost than the benefits you would otherwise receive under this *plan* while maintaining the same standards of care; and
4. You (or your legal guardian) and your *physician* agree, in a letter of agreement, with our recommended substitution of benefits and with the specific terms and conditions under which alternative benefits are to be provided.

Alternative Treatment Plan. If we determine that your needs could be met more efficiently, an alternative treatment plan may be recommended. This may include providing benefits not otherwise covered under this *plan*. A case manager will review the medical records and discuss your treatment with the attending *physician*, you, and your family.

We make treatment recommendations only; any decision regarding treatment belongs to you and your *physician*. The group will, in no way, compromise your freedom to make such decisions.

EFFECT ON BENEFITS

1. Benefits are provided for an alternative treatment plan on a case-by-case basis only. We have absolute discretion in deciding whether or not to authorize services in lieu of benefits for any *insured person*, which alternatives may be offered and the terms of the offer.
2. Any authorization of services in lieu of benefits in a particular case in no way commits us to do so in another case or for another *insured person*.
3. The personal case management program does not prevent us from strictly applying the expressed benefits, exclusions and limitations of this *plan* at any other time or for any other *insured person*.

Note: We reserve the right to use the services of one or more third parties in the performance of the services outlined in the letter of agreement. No other assignment of any rights or delegation of any duties by either party is valid without the prior written consent of the other party.

DISAGREEMENTS WITH MEDICAL MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

1. If you or your *physician* disagree with a decision, or question how it was reached, you or your *physician* may request reconsideration. Requests for reconsideration (either by telephone or in writing) must be directed to the reviewer making the determination. Written requests must include medical information that supports the medical necessity of the services.
2. If you, your representative, or your *physician* acting on your behalf, find the reconsidered decision still unsatisfactory, a request for an appeal of a reconsidered decision may be submitted in writing to us.
3. If the appeal decision is still unsatisfactory, your remedy may be binding arbitration. (See BINDING ARBITRATION.)

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Utilization review programs are monitored, evaluated, and improved on an ongoing basis to ensure consistency of application of screening criteria and medical policy, consistency and reliability of decisions by reviewers, and compliance with policy and procedure including but not limited to timeframes for decision making, notification and written confirmation. Our Board of Directors is responsible for medical necessity review processes through its oversight committees including the Strategic Planning Committee, Quality Management Committee, and Physician Relations Committee. Oversight includes approval of policies and procedures, review and approval of self-audit tools, procedures, and results. Monthly process audits measure the performance of reviewers and Peer Clinical Reviewers against approved written policies, procedures, and timeframes. Quarterly reports of audit results and, when needed, corrective action plans are reviewed and approved through the committee structure.

HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS

HOW COVERAGE BEGINS

ELIGIBLE STATUS

1. **Insured Employees.** You are in an eligible status if you are (a) an active, regularly assigned, full-time staff employee who works at least 30 hours a week in the conduct of the business of the *group*, (b) an active, regularly assigned staff employee in an approved “9 to 12 month” position who works at least 30 hours a week in the conduct of the business of the group, (c) an active, regularly assigned, full-time faculty member employed under a regular (non-adjunct) faculty contract, serving at least a half-time appointment (.5 fte) during each academic year or (d) a *retired employee* who is between the age of 55 and 65 on the date of retirement, is retired from active full-time employment, and was covered under a *group* sponsored plan immediately prior to retirement.
2. **Family Members.** The following persons are eligible to enroll as *family members*: (a) Either the *employee’s spouse* or *domestic partner*; and (b) A *child*.

Definition of Family Member

1. **Spouse** is the *employee’s* spouse under a legally valid marriage. Spouse does not include any person who is: (a) covered as an *insured employee*; or (b) in active service in the armed forces.
2. **Domestic partner** is the *employee’s* domestic partner under a legally registered and valid domestic partnership. Domestic partner does not include any person who is: (a) covered as an *insured employee*; or (b) in active service in the armed forces.
3. **Child** is the *employee’s, spouse’s* or *domestic partner’s* natural child, stepchild, legally adopted child, or a child for whom the *employee, spouse* or *domestic partner* has been appointed legal guardian by a court of law, subject to the following:
 - a. The child is under 26 years of age.

- b. The unmarried child is 26 years of age, or older and: (i) was covered under the *prior plan*, was covered as a *family member* of the *employee* under another plan or health insurer, or has six or more months of other *creditable coverage*, (ii) is chiefly dependent on the *employee, spouse or domestic partner* for support and maintenance, and (iii) is incapable of self-sustaining employment due to a physical or mental condition. A *physician* must certify in writing that the child is incapable of self-sustaining employment due to a physical or mental condition. We must receive the certification, at no expense to us, within 60-days of the date the *employee* receives our request. We may request proof of continuing dependency and that a physical or mental condition still exists, but not more often than once each year after the initial certification. This exception will last until the child is no longer chiefly dependent on the *employee, spouse or domestic partner* for support and maintenance due to a continuing physical or mental condition. A child is considered chiefly dependent for support and maintenance if he or she qualifies as a dependent for federal income tax purposes.
- c. A child who is in the process of being adopted is considered a legally adopted child if we receive legal evidence of both: (i) the intent to adopt; and (ii) that the *employee, spouse or domestic partner* have either: (a) the right to control the health care of the child; or (b) assumed a legal obligation for full or partial financial responsibility for the child in anticipation of the child's adoption.

Legal evidence to control the health care of the child means a written document, including, but not limited to, a health facility minor release report, a medical authorization form, or relinquishment form, signed by the child's birth parent, or other appropriate authority, or in the absence of a written document, other evidence of the *employee's, the spouse's or domestic partner's* right to control the health care of the child.

- d. A child for whom the *employee or spouse* is legal guardian is considered eligible on the date of the court decree (the "eligibility date"). We must receive legal evidence of the decree.

Note. *Family member* includes a previously enrolled *spouse or child* of a retired employee over age 65 provided the *spouse* is under age 65.

ELIGIBILITY DATE

1. **For Employees:** You become eligible for coverage on the first day of the month coinciding with or following your date of hire. (This is your "waiting" period.)
2. **For Family Members:** You become eligible for coverage on the later of: (a) the date the *employee* becomes eligible for coverage; or (b) the date you meet the *family member* definition.

Exceptions to the Waiting Period:

1. If, after you have completed the waiting period, you cease to be eligible due to termination of employment, and you return to an eligible status within six months after the date your employment terminated, you will become eligible on the first day of the month coinciding with or following the date you return.
2. If you were covered under the *prior plan*, the time you spent under the *prior plan* will be used to satisfy, or partially satisfy, your waiting period under this *plan*.

ENROLLMENT

To enroll as an *employee*, or to enroll *family members*, the *employee* must properly file an application. An application is considered properly filed, only if it is personally signed, dated, and given to the *group* within 31 days from your initial eligibility date. We must receive this application from the *group* within 90 days. If any of these steps are not followed, your coverage may be denied.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Your effective date of coverage is subject to the timely payment of premium on your behalf. The date you become covered is determined as follows:

1. **Timely Enrollment.** If you enroll for coverage before, on, or within 45 days* after your initial eligibility date, then your coverage will begin as follows: (a) for *employees*, on your eligibility date; and (b) for *family members*, on the later of (i) the date the *employee's* coverage begins, or (ii) the first day of the month coinciding with or following the date the *family member* becomes eligible. If you become eligible before the *policy* takes effect, coverage begins on the effective date of the *policy*, provided the enrollment application is on time and in order.

*Note. 30 days for mid-year changes.

Exception. For a newly married couple, the *spouse* is eligible on the date of marriage.

2. **Late Enrollment for Family Members.** If you file an enrollment application or membership change form for *family members* with the *group* more than 30 days after their initial eligibility date, they must wait until the *group's* next Open Enrollment Period to enroll.
3. **Disenrollment.** If *family members* are disenrolled from coverage under this plan, the *family member* will be eligible to reapply for coverage as set forth in the "Enrollment" provision above, during the *group's* next Open Enrollment period (see OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD).

NOTE: You may enroll your *family members* earlier than the next Open Enrollment Period if they meet any of the conditions listed under SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS.

Important Note for Newborn and Newly-Adopted Children. If the *insured employee* (or *spouse* or *domestic partner*, if the *spouse* or *domestic partner* is enrolled) is already covered: (1) any *child* born to the *employee, spouse* or *domestic partner* will be enrolled from the moment of birth; and (2) any *child* being adopted by the *employee, spouse* or *domestic partner* will be enrolled from the date on which either: (a) the adoptive *child's* birth parent, or other appropriate legal authority, signs a written document granting the *employee, spouse* or *domestic partner* the right to control the health care of the *child* (in the absence of a written document, other evidence of the *employee's, spouse's* or *domestic partner's* right to control the health care of the *child* may be used); or (b) the *employee, spouse* or *domestic partner* assumed a legal obligation for full or partial financial responsibility for the *child* in anticipation of the *child's* adoption. The "written document" referred to above includes, but is not limited to, a health facility minor release report, a medical authorization form, or relinquishment form.

In both cases, coverage will be in effect for 30 days. For coverage to continue beyond this 30-day period, the *employee* must submit a membership change form to the *group* within the 30-day period. We must then receive the form from the *group* within 90 days.

Special Enrollment Periods

You may enroll without waiting for the *group's* next open enrollment period if you are otherwise eligible under any one of the circumstances set forth below:

1. You have met all of the following requirements:
 - a. You were covered as an individual or dependent under either:

- i. Another employer group health plan or health insurance coverage, including coverage under a COBRA or CalCOBRA continuation; or
 - ii. A state Medicaid plan or under a state child health insurance program (SCHIP), including the Healthy Families Program or the Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM) Program.
- b. You certified in writing at the time you became eligible for coverage under this *plan* that you were declining coverage under this *plan* or disenrolling because you were covered under another health plan as stated above and you were given written notice that if you choose to enroll later, you may be required to wait until the *group's* next open enrollment period to do so.
- c. Your coverage under the other health plan wherein you were covered as an individual or dependent ended as follows:
- i. If the other health plan was another employer group health plan or health insurance coverage, including coverage under a COBRA or CalCOBRA continuation, coverage ended because you lost eligibility under the other plan, your coverage under a COBRA or CalCOBRA continuation was exhausted, or employer contributions toward coverage under the other plan terminated. You must properly file an application with the *group* within 30 days after the date your coverage ends or the date employer contributions toward coverage under the other plan terminate.

Loss of eligibility for coverage under an employer group health plan or health insurance includes loss of eligibility due to termination of employment or change in employment status, reduction in the number of hours worked, loss of dependent status under the terms of the *plan*, termination of the other plan, legal separation, divorce, death of the person through whom you were covered, and any loss of eligibility for coverage after a period of time that is measured by reference to any of the foregoing.

- ii. If the other health plan was a state Medicaid plan or a state child health insurance program (SCHIP), including the Healthy Families Program or the Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM) Program, coverage ended because you lost eligibility under the program. You must properly file an application with the *group* within 60 days after the date your coverage ended.

2. A court has ordered coverage be provided for a *spouse*, *domestic partner* or dependent *child* under your employee health plan and an application is filed within 30 days from the date the court order is issued.
3. We do not have a written statement from the *group* stating that prior to declining coverage or disenrolling, you received and signed acknowledgment of a written notice specifying that if you do not enroll for coverage within 30 days after your eligibility date, or if you disenroll, and later file an enrollment application, your coverage may not begin until the first day of the month following the end of the *group's* next open enrollment period.
4. You have a change in family status through either marriage or domestic partnership, or the birth, adoption, or placement for adoption of a *child*:
 - a. If you are enrolling following marriage or domestic partnership, you and your new *spouse* or *domestic partner* must enroll within 30 days of the date of marriage or domestic partnership. Your new *spouse* or *domestic partner's* children may also enroll at that time. Other children may not enroll at that time unless they qualify under another of these circumstances listed above.
 - b. If you are enrolling following the birth, adoption, or placement for adoption of a *child*, your *spouse* (if you are already married) or *domestic partner*, who is eligible but not enrolled, may also enroll at that time. Other children may not enroll at that time unless they qualify under another of these circumstances listed above. Application must be made within 30 days of the birth or date of adoption or placement for adoption.
5. You meet or exceed a lifetime limit on all benefits under another health plan. Application must be made within 30 days of the date a claim or a portion of a claim is denied due to your meeting or exceeding the lifetime limit on all benefits under the other plan.
6. You become eligible for assistance, with respect to the cost of coverage under the employer's group *plan*, under a state Medicaid or SCHIP health plan, including any waiver or demonstration project conducted under or in relation to these plans. You must properly file an application with the *group* within 60 days after the date you are determined to be eligible for this assistance.

Effective date of coverage. For enrollments during a special enrollment period as described above, coverage will be effective on the first day of the month following the date you file the enrollment application, except as specified below:

1. If a court has ordered that coverage be provided for a dependent *child*, coverage will become effective for that *child* on the earlier of (a) the first day of the month following the date you file the enrollment application or (b) within 30 days after we receive a copy of the court order or of a request from the district attorney, either parent or the person having custody of the *child*, the employer, or the *group* administrator.
2. For enrollments following the birth, adoption, or placement for adoption of a *child*, coverage will be effective as of the date of birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.
3. For enrollments following marriage or domestic partnership, coverage will be effective as of the date of marriage or domestic partnership.

OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD

The *group* has an open enrollment period once each *year*. During that time, an individual who meets the eligibility requirements as an *employee* under this *plan* may enroll. An *employee* may also enroll any eligible *family members* at that time. Persons eligible to enroll as *family members* may enroll only under the *employee's plan*.

For anyone so enrolling, coverage under this *plan* will begin on the first day of the month following the end of the Open Enrollment Period. Coverage under the former plan ends when coverage under this *plan* begins.

HOW COVERAGE ENDS

Your coverage ends, without notice from us, as provided below:

1. If the *policy* terminates, your coverage ends at the same time. The *policy* may be cancelled or changed without notice to you.
2. If the *group* no longer provides coverage for the class of *insured persons* to which you belong, your coverage ends on the effective date of that change. If this *policy* is amended to delete coverage for *family members*, a *family member's* coverage ends on the effective date of that change.
3. Coverage for *family members* ends when the *employee's* coverage ends.
4. Coverage ends at the end of the period for which premium has been paid to us on your behalf when the required premium for the next period is not paid.

5. If you voluntarily cancel coverage at any time, coverage ends on the premium due date coinciding with or following the date of voluntary cancellation, as provided by written notice to us.
6. If you no longer meet the requirements set forth in the "Eligible Status" provision of HOW COVERAGE BEGINS, your coverage ends as of the premium due date coinciding with or following the date you cease to meet such requirements.
7. Coverage ends if you are a *retiree* who reaches age 65. However, coverage may continue for *family members* until:
 - a. The *spouse* reaches age 65, unless divorced or annulled prior to that date. In the event of the retiree's death, coverage may be continued until the attainment of age 65 or remarriage.
 - b. The child ceases to meet the definition of child and is no longer eligible under the *plan*.
 - c. The surviving spouse and child become covered under another employer plan.

Exceptions to Item 6:

- a. **Leave of Absence.** If you are an *insured employee* and the *group* pays premium to us on your behalf, your coverage may continue (i) for up to 12 months during a medical or sabbatical leave of absence, or (ii) for up to one month during a personal leave of absence. Such leave of absence must be approved by the *group*.

- b. **Handicapped Children.** If a *child* reaches the age limit shown in the "Eligible Status" provision of this section, the *child* will continue to qualify as a *family member* if he or she is (i) covered under this *plan*, (ii) chiefly dependent on the *insured employee*, *spouse* or *domestic partner* for support and maintenance, and (iii) incapable of self-sustaining employment due to a physical or mental condition. A *physician* must certify in writing that the *child* has a physical or mental condition that makes the *child* incapable of obtaining self-sustaining employment. We will notify the *insured employee* that the *child's* coverage will end when the *child* reaches the *plan's* upper age limit at least 90-days prior to the date the *child* reaches that age. The *insured employee* must send proof of the *child's* physical or mental condition within 60-days of the date the *insured employee* receives our request. If we do not complete our determination of the *child's* continuing eligibility by the date the *child* reaches the *plan's* upper age limit, the *child* will remain covered pending our determination. When a period of two years has passed, we may request proof of continuing dependency due to a continuing physical or mental condition, but not more often than once each year. This exception will last until the *child* is no longer chiefly dependent on the *insured employee*, *spouse* or *domestic partner* for support and maintenance or a physical or mental condition no longer exists. A *child* is considered chiefly dependent for support and maintenance if he or she qualifies as a dependent for federal income tax purposes.

Note: If a marriage or domestic partnership terminates, the *employee* must give or send to the *group* written notice of the termination. Coverage for a former *spouse* or *domestic partners*, and their dependent *children*, if any, ends according to the "Eligible Status" provisions. If Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health suffers a loss because of the *employee* failing to notify the *group* of the termination of their marriage or domestic partnership, Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health may seek recovery from the *employee* for any actual loss resulting thereby. Failure to provide written notice to the *group* will not delay or prevent termination of the marriage or domestic partnership. If the *employee* notifies the *group* in writing to cancel coverage for a former *spouse* or *domestic partner* and the *children* of the *spouse* or *domestic partner*, if any, immediately upon termination of the *employee's* marriage or domestic partnership, such notice will be considered compliance with the requirements of this provision.

You may be entitled to continued benefits under terms which are specified elsewhere under CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE, CALCOBRA CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE, COVERAGE FOR SURVIVING FAMILY MEMBERS, EXTENSION OF BENEFITS and HIPAA COVERAGE AND CONVERSION.

CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE

Most employers who employ 20 or more people on a typical business day are subject to The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). If the employer who provides coverage under the *policy* is subject to the federal law which governs this provision (Title X of P. L. 99-272), you may be entitled to a period of continuation of coverage. Check with your employer for details.

DEFINITIONS

The meanings of key terms used in this section are shown below. Whenever any of the terms shown below appear in these provisions, the first letter of each word will be capitalized. When you see these capitalized words, you should refer to this "Definitions" provision.

Initial Enrollment Period is the period of time following the original Qualifying Event, as indicated in the "Terms of COBRA Continuation" provisions below.

Qualified Beneficiary means: (a) a person enrolled for this COBRA continuation coverage who, on the day before the Qualifying Event, was covered under this *policy* as either an *insured employee* or *insured family member*; and (b) a *child* who is born to or placed for adoption with the *insured employee* during the COBRA continuation period. Qualified Beneficiary does not include: (a) any person who was not enrolled during the Initial Enrollment Period, including any *family members* acquired during the COBRA continuation period, with the exception of newborns and adoptees as specified above; or (b) a *domestic partner*, or a *child* of a *domestic partner*, if they are eligible under HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS.

Qualifying Event means any one of the following circumstances which would otherwise result in the termination of your coverage under the *policy*. The events will be referred to throughout this section by number.

1. For Insured Employees and Insured Family Members:

- a. The *employee's* termination of employment, for any reason other than gross misconduct; or
- b. A reduction in the *employee's* work hours.

2. For Retired Employees and their Insured Family Members.

Cancellation or a substantial reduction of retiree benefits under the *plan* due to the *group's* filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, provided:

- a. The *policy* expressly includes coverage for retirees; and

- b. Such cancellation or reduction of benefits occurs within one year before or after the *group's* filing for bankruptcy.

3. For Insured Family Members:

- a. The death of the *insured employee*;
- b. The *spouse's* divorce or legal separation from the *employee*;
- c. The end of a *child's* status as a dependent *child*, as defined by the *policy*; or
- d. The *employee's* entitlement to Medicare.

ELIGIBILITY FOR COBRA CONTINUATION

An *insured employee* or *insured family member*, **other than a *domestic partner*, and a *child of a domestic partner***, may choose to continue coverage under the *policy* if his or her coverage would otherwise end due to a Qualifying Event.

TERMS OF COBRA CONTINUATION

Notice. The *group* or its administrator (we are not the administrator) will notify either the *insured employee* or *insured family member* of the right to continue coverage under COBRA, as provided below:

1. For Qualifying Events 1, or 2, the *group* or its administrator will notify the *employee* of the right to continue coverage.
2. For Qualifying Events 3(a) or 3(d) above, a *family member* will be notified of the COBRA continuation right.
3. You must inform the *group* within 60 days of Qualifying Events 3(b) or 3(c) above, if you wish to continue coverage. The *group*, in turn, will promptly give you official notice of the COBRA continuation right.

If you choose to continue coverage you must notify the *group* within 60 days of the date you receive notice of your COBRA continuation right. The COBRA continuation coverage may be chosen for all *insured persons* within a family, or only for selected *insured persons*.

If you fail to elect the COBRA continuation during the Initial Enrollment Period, you may not elect the COBRA continuation at a later date.

Notice of continued coverage, along with the initial premium, must be delivered to us by the *group* within 45 days after you elect COBRA continuation coverage.

Additional Insured Family Members. A *spouse* or *child* acquired during the COBRA continuation period is eligible to be enrolled as a *family member*. The standard enrollment provisions of the *policy* apply to enrollees during the COBRA continuation period.

Cost of Coverage. The *group* may require that you pay the entire cost of your COBRA continuation coverage. This cost, called the "premium", must be remitted to the *group* each month during the COBRA continuation period. We must receive payment of the premium each month from the *group* in order to maintain the coverage in force.

Besides applying to the *insured employee*, the *employee's* premium rate will also apply to:

1. A *spouse* whose COBRA continuation began due to divorce, separation or death of the *employee*;
2. A *child*, if neither the *employee* nor the *spouse* has enrolled for this COBRA continuation coverage (if more than one *child* is so enrolled, the premium will be the family rate); and
3. A *child* whose COBRA continuation began due to the person no longer meeting the dependent *child* definition.

Subsequent Qualifying Events. Once covered under the COBRA continuation, it's possible for a second Qualifying Event to occur. If that happens, an *insured person*, who is a Qualified Beneficiary, may be entitled to an extended COBRA continuation period. This period will in no event continue beyond 36 months from the date of the first qualifying event.

For example, a *child* may have been originally eligible for this COBRA continuation due to termination of the *insured employee's* employment, and was enrolled for this COBRA continuation as a Qualified Beneficiary. If, during the COBRA continuation period, the *child* reaches the upper age limit of the *plan*, the *child* is eligible for an extended continuation period which would end no later than 36 months from the date of the original Qualifying Event (the termination of employment).

When COBRA Continuation Coverage Begins. When COBRA continuation coverage is elected during the Initial Enrollment Period and the premium is paid, coverage is reinstated back to the date of the original Qualifying Event, so that no break in coverage occurs.

For *family members* properly enrolled during the COBRA continuation, coverage begins according to the enrollment provisions of the *policy*.

When the COBRA Continuation Ends. This COBRA continuation will end on the earliest of:

1. The end of 18 months from the Qualifying Event, if the Qualifying Event was termination of employment or reduction in work hours;*
2. The end of 36 months from the Qualifying Event, if the Qualifying Event was the death of the *insured employee*, divorce or legal separation, or the end of dependent *child* status;*
3. The end of 36 months from the date the *insured employee* became entitled to Medicare, if the Qualifying Event was the *employee's* entitlement to Medicare. If entitlement to Medicare does not result in coverage terminating and Qualifying Event 1 occurs within 18 months after Medicare entitlement, coverage for Qualified Beneficiaries other than the *insured employee* will end 36 months from the date the *insured employee* became entitled to Medicare;
4. The date the *policy* terminates;
5. The end of the period for which premiums are last paid;
6. The date, following the election of COBRA, the *insured person* first becomes covered under any other group health plan, unless the other group health plan contains an exclusion or limitation relating to a pre-existing condition of the *insured person*, in which case this COBRA continuation will end at the end of the period for which the pre-existing condition exclusion or limitation applied; or
7. The date, following the election of COBRA, the *insured person* first becomes entitled to Medicare. However, entitlement to Medicare will not preclude a person from continuing coverage which the person became eligible for due to Qualifying Event 2.

*For an *insured person* whose COBRA continuation coverage began under a *prior plan*, this term will be dated from the time of the Qualifying Event under that *prior plan*. Additional note: If your COBRA continuation under this *plan* began on or after January 1, 2003 and ends in accordance with item 1, you may further elect to continue coverage for medical benefits only under CalCOBRA for the balance of 36 months (COBRA and CalCOBRA combined). All COBRA eligibility must be exhausted before you are eligible to further continue coverage under CalCOBRA. Please see CALCOBRA CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE in this booklet for more information.

Subject to the *policy* remaining in effect, a retired *employee* whose COBRA continuation coverage began due to Qualifying Event 2 may be covered for the remainder of his or her life; that person's covered *family members* may continue coverage for 36 months after the *employee's* death. However, coverage could terminate prior to such time for either *employee* or *family member* in accordance with items 4, 5 or 6 above.

If your COBRA continuation under this *plan* ends in accordance with items 1, 2 or 3, you may be eligible for medical conversion coverage. If your COBRA continuation under this *plan* ends in accordance with items 1, 2, 3, or 4 you may be eligible for HIPAA coverage. The *group* will provide notice of these options within 180 days prior to your COBRA termination date. Please see HIPAA COVERAGE AND CONVERSION in this booklet for more information.

EXTENSION OF CONTINUATION DURING TOTAL DISABILITY

If at the time of termination of employment or reduction in hours, or at any time during the first 60 days of the COBRA continuation, a Qualified Beneficiary is determined to be disabled for Social Security purposes, all covered *insured persons* may be entitled to up to 29 months of continuation coverage after the original Qualifying Event.

Eligibility for Extension. To continue coverage for up to 29 months from the date of the original Qualifying Event, the disabled *insured person* must:

1. Satisfy the legal requirements for being totally and permanently disabled under the Social Security Act; and
2. Be determined and certified to be so disabled by the Social Security Administration.

Notice. The *insured person* must furnish the *group* with proof of the Social Security Administration's determination of disability during the first 18 months of the COBRA continuation period and no later than 60 days after the later of the following events:

1. The date of the Social Security Administration's determination of the disability;
2. The date on which the original Qualifying Event occurs;
3. The date on which the Qualified Beneficiary loses coverage; or
4. The date on which the Qualified Beneficiary is informed of the obligation to provide the disability notice.

Cost of Coverage. For the 19th through 29th months that the total disability continues, the *group* must remit the cost for the extended continuation coverage to us. This cost (called the "premium") shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. If the disabled *insured person* continues coverage during this extension, this rate shall be **150%** of the applicable rate for the length of time the disabled *insured person* remains covered, depending upon the number of covered dependents. If the disabled *insured person* does not continue coverage during this extension, this charge shall remain at **102%** of the applicable rate.
2. The cost for extended continuation coverage must be remitted to us by the *group* each month during the period of extended continuation coverage. We must receive timely payment of the premium each month from the *group* in order to maintain the extended continuation coverage in force.
3. The *group* may require that you pay the entire cost of the extended continuation coverage.

If a second Qualifying Event occurs during this extended continuation, the total COBRA continuation may continue for up to 36 months from the date of the first Qualifying Event. The premium rate shall then be **150%** of the applicable rate for the 19th through 36th months if the disabled *insured person* remains covered. The charge will be **102%** of the applicable rate for any periods of time the disabled *insured person* is not covered following the 18th month.

When The Extension Ends. This extension will end at the earlier of:

1. The end of the month following a period of 30 days after the Social Security Administration's final determination that you are no longer totally disabled;
2. The end of 29 months from the Qualifying Event*;
3. The date the *policy* terminates;
4. The end of the period for which premiums are last paid;
5. The date, following the election of COBRA, the *insured person* first becomes covered under the other group health plan, unless the other group health plan contains an exclusion or limitation to a pre-existing condition of the *insured person*, in which case this COBRA extension will end at the end of the period for which the pre-existing condition exclusion or limitation applied; or

6. The date, following the election of COBRA, the *insured person* first becomes entitled to Medicare. However, entitlement to Medicare will not preclude a person from continuing coverage which the person became eligible for due to Qualifying Event 2.

You must inform the *group* within 30 days of a final determination by the Social Security Administration that you are no longer totally disabled.

*Note: If your COBRA continuation under this *plan* began on or after January 1, 2003 and ends in accordance with item 2, you may further elect to continue coverage for medical benefits only under CalCOBRA for the balance of 36 months (COBRA and CalCOBRA combined). All COBRA eligibility must be exhausted before you are eligible to further continue coverage under CalCOBRA. Please see CALCOBRA CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE in this booklet for more information.

CALCOBRA CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE

If your continuation coverage under federal COBRA began on or after January 1, 2003, you have the option to further continue coverage under CalCOBRA for medical benefits only if your federal COBRA ended following:

1. 18 months after the qualifying event, if the qualifying event was termination of employment or reduction in work hours; or
2. 29 months after the qualifying event, if you qualified for the extension of COBRA continuation during total disability.

All federal COBRA eligibility must be exhausted before you are eligible to further continue coverage under CalCOBRA. You are not eligible to further continue coverage under CalCOBRA if you (a) are entitled to Medicare; (b) have other coverage or become covered under another group plan, as long as you are not subject to a pre-existing condition limitation under that coverage; or (c) are eligible for or covered under federal COBRA. Coverage under CalCOBRA is available for medical benefits only.

TERMS OF CALCOBRA CONTINUATION

Notice. Within 180 days prior to the date federal COBRA ends, we will notify you of your right to further elect coverage under CalCOBRA. If you choose to elect CalCOBRA coverage, you must notify us in writing within 60 days of the date your coverage under federal COBRA ends or when you are notified of your right to continue coverage under CalCOBRA, whichever is later. If you don't give us written notification within this time period you will not be able to continue your coverage.

Please examine your options carefully before declining this coverage. You should be aware that companies selling individual health insurance typically require a review of your medical history that could result in higher cost or you could be denied coverage entirely.

Additional Family Members. A dependent acquired during the CalCOBRA continuation period is eligible to be enrolled as a *family member*. The standard enrollment provisions of the *policy* apply to enrollees during the CalCOBRA continuation period.

Cost of Coverage. You will be required to pay the entire cost of your CalCOBRA continuation coverage (this is the "premium"). This cost will be:

1. 110% of the applicable *group* rate if your coverage under federal COBRA ended after 18 months; or
2. 150% of the applicable *group* rate if your coverage under federal COBRA ended after 29 months.

You must make payment to us within the timeframes specified below. We must receive payment of your premium each month to maintain your coverage in force.

Payment Dates. The first payment is due along with your enrollment form within 45 days after you elect continuation coverage. You must make this payment by first-class mail or other reliable means of delivery, in an amount sufficient to pay any required premium and premium due. Failure to submit the correct amount within this 45-day period will disqualify you from receiving continuation coverage under CalCOBRA. Succeeding premium payments are due on the first day of each following month.

If premium payments are not received when due, your coverage will be cancelled. We will cancel your coverage only upon sending you written notice of cancellation at least 15 days prior to cancelling your coverage. If you make payment in full within 15 days after we issue this notice of cancellation, your coverage will not be cancelled. If you do not make the required payment in full within this 15 day period, your coverage will be cancelled as of 12:00 midnight on the fifteenth day after the date on which the notice of cancellation is sent and will not be reinstated. Any payment we receive more than 15 days after we issue the notice of cancellation will be refunded to you within 20 business days.

Premium Rate Change. The premium rates may be changed by us as of any premium due date. We will provide you with written notice at least 30 days prior to the date any premium rate increase goes into effect.

Accuracy of Information. You are responsible for supplying up-to-date eligibility information. We shall rely upon the latest information received as correct without verification; but we maintain the right to verify any eligibility information you provide.

CalCOBRA Continuation Coverage Under the Prior Plan. If you were covered through CalCOBRA continuation under the *prior plan*, your coverage may continue under this *plan* for the balance of the continuation period. However your coverage shall terminate if you do not comply with the enrollment requirements and premium payment requirements of this *plan* within 30 days of receiving notice that your continuation coverage under the *prior plan* will end.

When CalCOBRA Continuation Coverage Begins. When you elect CalCOBRA continuation coverage and pay the premium, coverage is reinstated back to the date federal COBRA ended, so that no break in coverage occurs.

For *family members* properly enrolled during the CalCOBRA continuation, coverage begins according to the enrollment provisions of the *policy*.

When the CalCOBRA Continuation Ends. This CalCOBRA continuation will end on the earliest of:

1. The date that is 36 months after the date of your qualifying event under federal COBRA*;
2. The date the *policy* terminates;
3. The date the *group* no longer provides coverage to the class of employees to which you belong;

4. The end of the period for which premium is last paid (your coverage will be cancelled upon written notification, as explained under "Payment Dates", above);
5. The date you become covered under any other health plan, unless the other health plan contains an exclusion or limitation relating to a pre-existing condition that you have. In this case, this continuation will end at the end of the period for which the pre-existing condition exclusion or limitation applied;
6. The date you become entitled to Medicare; or
7. The date you become covered under a federal COBRA continuation.

CalCOBRA continuation will also end if you move out of our service area or if you commit fraud.

*If your CalCOBRA continuation coverage began under a *prior plan*, this term will be dated from the time of the qualifying event under that *prior plan*.

If your CalCOBRA continuation under this *plan* ends in accordance with items 1, 2, or 3, you may be eligible for HIPAA coverage or medical conversion coverage. You will receive notice of these options within 180 days prior to your CalCOBRA termination date. Please see HIPAA COVERAGE AND CONVERSION in this booklet for more information.

SENIOR COBRA CONTINUATION FOR QUALIFYING INSURED PERSONS

This section does not apply to any individual who is not eligible for this continuation prior to January 1, 2005. Subject to payment of premium as stated in the *policy*, coverage under this *plan* may be continued for the *insured employee*, the *insured employee's spouse*, and the *insured employee's former spouse* (if any) under Section 10116.5 of the Insurance Code and Section 2800.2 of the Labor Code, in accordance with the following provisions. This continuation may be elected following the CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE (the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA), or Title X of P.L. 99-272) and the CALCOBRA CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE shown above.

For the purposes of this section, "former spouse" means: (a) an individual who is divorced from the *insured employee*; or (b) an individual who was married to the *insured employee* at the time of the *insured employee's* death.

Requirements. The *insured employee* and *spouse* may continue coverage under this *plan* if:

1. The *employee*, or the *employee* on behalf of himself or herself and the *spouse*, was entitled to, and had elected to continue coverage under, COBRA or CalCOBRA, as described in the preceding section;
2. The *employee* or *spouse* has not elected to continue coverage under any other available continuation;
3. The *employee* has worked for the employer for at least the prior five years; and
4. The *employee* is at least 60 years old on the date employment with the employer ended.

The former *spouse* may continue coverage under this *plan* in accordance with this section if he or she was covered as a qualified beneficiary under COBRA or CalCOBRA, as described in the preceding sections.

Notice and Election. The employer will notify the *insured employee* or *spouse* and the former *spouse* of the right to continue coverage within 180 days prior to the date continuation of coverage under COBRA or CalCOBRA is scheduled to end.

For the *employee* and *spouse*, this continuation may be chosen for both, for the *employee* only, or for the *spouse* only. The former *spouse* may elect this continuation for himself or herself only.

To elect this continuation, you must notify us in writing within 30 days prior to the date continuation coverage under COBRA or CalCOBRA is scheduled to end. If you fail to elect this continuation when first eligible, you may not elect this continuation at a later date. You must remit the initial premium to us within 45 days after you elect this continuation.

Cost of Coverage. You are required to pay the entire cost of this continuation coverage. You must remit this cost to us each month during the continuation period. We must receive payment of the premium each month in order to continue the coverage in force. The rate for continuation coverage under this section shall be 213% of the applicable *group* rate. For the purpose of determining premiums payable, the *spouse* or former spouse continuing coverage alone will be considered to be an *employee*.

Payment Dates. The first payment is due along with your enrollment form within 45 days after you elect continuation coverage. We will bill you for any retroactive charges which may be due. Succeeding premiums are due on the first day of each following month (the Premium Due Date).

Grace Period. For every Premium Due Date, except the first, there is a 31-day grace period in which to pay premiums. If premiums are not received by the end of the grace period, your coverage will be canceled at the end of the period for which premiums are last paid.

Premium Rate Change. The premium rates may be changed by us as of any Premium Due Date. We will provide you with written notice at least 30 days prior to the date any premium rate increase goes into effect.

Accuracy of Information. You are responsible for supplying accurate, up-to-date eligibility information. We shall rely upon the latest information received as correct without verification; but we maintain the right to verify any eligibility information you provide. We can hold you responsible for any loss or expense we incur because of your failure to do so.

When Continuation Ends. This continuation will end on the earliest of:

1. The end of the period for which premiums are last paid;
2. The date the *policy* terminates;
3. The date, following the election of Senior COBRA, the *insured employee, spouse, or former spouse* first becomes covered under any group health plan not maintained by the employer;
4. The date, following the election of Senior COBRA, the *employee, spouse, or former spouse* first becomes entitled to Medicare;
5. The date the *employee, spouse, or former spouse* reaches age 65;
or
6. For the *spouse or former spouse*, five years from the date the *spouse's or former spouse's* COBRA or CalCOBRA continuation coverage ended.

If your continuation under this *plan* ends in accordance with item 6, you are eligible for medical conversion coverage. If your continuation under this *plan* ends in accordance with items 2 or 6, you may be eligible for HIPAA coverage. Please see HIPAA COVERAGE AND CONVERSION in this booklet for more information.

COVERAGE FOR SURVIVING FAMILY MEMBERS

If the *employee* dies while covered under this *plan*, coverage continues for an enrolled *spouse* or *child* until one of the following occurs:

1. The surviving *spouse* remarries;
2. The surviving *spouse* reaches age 65;
3. The surviving *spouse* and *child* become covered under another employer plan;
4. Premium is not paid to us on the *insured person's* behalf;
5. The *group* cancels coverage for the class of *employees* to which the *insured person* belongs;
6. The *policy* between the *group* and us terminates; or
7. The *child* no longer meets all of the conditions of coverage in HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS.

Note: The cost of continuing coverage under this provision will be paid by the *group* for the first twelve months. Thereafter, the *spouse* or *child* will be responsible for payment of the premium. The cost of continuing coverage may be more than the cost of coverage the *group* provides to its employees or their *family members*.

EXTENSION OF BENEFITS

If you are a *totally disabled employee* or a *totally disabled family member* and under the treatment of a *physician* on the date of discontinuance of the *policy*, your benefits may be continued for treatment of the totally disabling condition. This extension of benefits is not available if you become covered under another group health plan that provides coverage without limitation for your disabling condition. Extension of benefits is subject to the following conditions:

1. If you are confined as an inpatient in a *hospital* or *skilled nursing facility*, you are considered totally disabled as long as the inpatient *stay* is *medically necessary*, and no written certification of the total disability is required. If you are discharged from the *hospital* or *skilled nursing facility*, you may continue your total disability benefits by submitting written certification by your *physician* of the total disability within 90 days of the date of your discharge. Thereafter, we must receive proof of your continuing total disability at least once every 90 days while benefits are extended.

2. If you are not confined as an inpatient but wish to apply for total disability benefits, you must do so by submitting written certification by your *physician* of the total disability. We must receive this certification within 90 days of the date coverage ends under this *plan*. At least once every 90 days while benefits are extended, we must receive proof that your total disability is continuing.
3. Your extension of benefits will end when any one of the following circumstances occurs:
 - a. You are no longer totally disabled.
 - b. The maximum benefits available to you under this *plan* are paid.
 - c. You become covered under another group health plan that provides benefits without limitation for your disabling condition.
 - d. A period of up to 12 months has passed since your extension began.

HIPAA COVERAGE AND CONVERSION

If your coverage for medical benefits under this *plan* ends, you may be eligible to enroll for coverage with any carrier or health plan that offers individual medical coverage. HIPAA coverage and conversion coverage are available upon request if you meet the requirements stated below. Both HIPAA coverage and conversion are available for medical benefits only. Please note that the benefits and cost of these plans will differ from your employer's *plan*.

HIPAA Coverage

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is a federal law that provides an option for individual coverage when coverage under the employer's group *plan* ends. To be eligible for HIPAA coverage, you must meet all of the following requirements:

1. You must have a minimum of 18 months of continuous health coverage, most recently under an employer-sponsored health plan, and have had coverage within the last 63 days.
2. Your most recent coverage was not terminated due to nonpayment of premiums or fraud.
3. If continuation of coverage under the employer *plan* was available under COBRA, CalCOBRA, or a similar state program including Senior COBRA, such coverage must have been elected and exhausted.

4. You must not be eligible for Medicare, Medicaid, or any group medical coverage and cannot have other medical coverage.

You must apply for HIPAA coverage within 63 days of the date your coverage under the employer's *plan* ends. Any carrier or health plan that offers individual medical coverage must make HIPAA coverage available to qualified persons without regard to health status. If you decide to enroll in HIPAA coverage, you will no longer qualify for conversion coverage.

Conversion Coverage

To apply for a conversion plan, you must submit an application to us and make the first premium payment within 63 days of the date your coverage under the employer's *plan* ends. Under certain circumstances you are not eligible for a conversion plan. They are:

1. You are not eligible if your coverage under this *plan* ends because the *policy* terminates and is replaced by another group plan within 15 days.
2. You are not eligible if your coverage under this *plan* ends because premium is not paid when due because you (or the *insured employee* who enrolled you as a dependent) did not contribute your part, if any.
3. You are not eligible for a conversion plan if you are eligible for health coverage under another group plan when your coverage ends.
4. You are not eligible for a conversion plan if you are eligible for Medicare coverage when your coverage under this *plan* ends, whether or not you have actually enrolled in Medicare.
5. You are not eligible for a conversion plan if you are covered under an individual health plan.
6. You are not eligible for a conversion plan if you were not covered for medical benefits under the *plan* for three consecutive months immediately prior to the termination of your coverage.

If you decide to enroll in a conversion plan, you will no longer qualify for HIPAA coverage.

Important: The intention of conversion coverage is not to replace the coverage you have under this *plan*, but to make available to you a specified amount of coverage for medical benefits until you can find a replacement. The conversion plan provides lesser benefits than this *plan* and the provisions and rates differ.

When coverage under your employer's group *plan* ends, you will receive more information about how to apply for HIPAA coverage or conversion, including a postcard for requesting an application and a telephone number to call if you have any questions.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Providing of Care. We are not responsible for providing any type of *hospital*, medical or similar care, nor are we responsible for the quality of any such care received.

Independent Contractors. Our relationship with providers is that of an independent contractor. *Physicians*, and other health care professionals, *hospitals*, *skilled nursing facilities* and other community agencies are not our agents nor are we, or any of our employees, an employee or agent of any *hospital*, medical group or medical care provider of any type.

Non-Regulation of Providers. The benefits provided under this *plan* do not regulate the amounts charged by providers of medical care.

Terms of Coverage

1. In order for you to be entitled to benefits under the *policy*, both the *policy* and your coverage under the *policy* must be in effect on the date the expense giving rise to a claim for benefits is incurred.
2. The benefits to which you may be entitled will depend on the terms of coverage in effect on the date the expense giving rise to a claim for benefits is incurred. An expense is incurred on the date you receive the service or supply for which the charge is made.
3. The *policy* is subject to amendment, modification or termination according to the provisions of the *policy* without your consent or concurrence.

Protection of Coverage. We do not have the right to cancel your coverage under this *plan* while: (1) this *plan* is in effect; (2) you are eligible; and (3) your premiums are paid according to the terms of the *policy*.

Medical Necessity. The benefits of this *plan* are provided only for services which are *medically necessary*. The services must be ordered by the attending *physician* for the direct care and treatment of a covered condition. They must be standard medical practice where received for the condition being treated and must be legal in the United States.

Expense in Excess of Benefits. We are not liable for any expense you incur in excess of the benefits of this *plan*.

Benefits Not Transferable. Only *insured persons* are entitled to receive benefits under this *plan*. The right to benefits cannot be transferred.

Notice of Claim. You, or someone on your behalf, must give us written notice of a claim within 20 days after you incur *covered expense* under this plan, or as soon as reasonably possible thereafter.

Claim Forms. After we receive a written notice of claim, we will give you any forms you need to file proof of loss. If we do not give you these forms within 15 days after you have filed your notice of claim, you will not have to use these forms, and you may file proof of loss by sending us written proof of the occurrence giving rise to the claim. Such written proof must include the extent and character of the loss.

Proof of Loss. You or the provider of service must send us properly and fully completed claim forms within 90 days of the date you receive the service or supply for which a claim is made. If it is not reasonably possible to submit the claim within that time frame, an extension of up to 12 months will be allowed. Except in the absence of legal capacity, we are not liable for the benefits of the *plan* if you do not file claims within the required time period. We will not be liable for benefits if we do not receive written proof of loss on time.

Services received and charges for the services must be itemized, and clearly and accurately described. Claim forms must be used; canceled checks or receipts are not acceptable.

Timely Payment of Claims. Any benefits due under this *plan* shall be due once we have received proper, written proof of loss, together with such reasonably necessary additional information we may require to determine our obligation.

Payment to Providers. We will pay the benefits of this *plan* directly to medical transportation providers. Also, we will pay other providers of service directly when you assign benefits in writing. If another party pays for your medical care and you assign benefits in writing, we will pay the benefits of this *plan* to that party. These payments will fulfill our obligation to you for those covered services.

Exception: Under certain circumstances we will pay the benefits of this *plan* directly to a provider or third party even without your assignment of benefits in writing. To receive direct payment, the provider or third party must provide us the following:

1. Proof of payment of medical services and the provider's itemized bill for such services;

2. If the *insured employee* does not reside with the patient, either a copy of the judicial order requiring the *employee* to provide coverage for the patient or a state approved form verifying the existence of such judicial order which would be filed with us on an annual basis;
3. If the *employee* does not reside with the patient, and if the provider is seeking direct reimbursement, an itemized bill with the signature of the custodian or guardian certifying that the services have been provided and supplying on an annual basis, either a copy of the judicial order requiring the *employee* to provide coverage for the patient or a state approved form verifying the existence of such judicial order;
4. The name and address of the person to be reimbursed, the name and policy number of the *employee*, the name of the patient, and other necessary information related to the coverage.

Right of Recovery. When the amount we paid exceeds our liability under this *plan*, we have the right to recover the excess amount. This amount may be recovered from you, the person to whom payment was made or any other plan.

Plan Administrator - COBRA and ERISA. In no event will we be plan administrator for the purposes of compliance with the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). The term "plan administrator" refers either to the *group* or to a person or entity, other than us, engaged by the *group* to perform or assist in performing administrative tasks in connection with the *group's* health plan. The *group* is responsible for satisfaction of notice, disclosure and other obligations of administrators under ERISA. In providing notices and otherwise performing under the CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE section of this booklet, the *group* is fulfilling statutory obligations imposed on it by federal law and, where applicable, acting as your agent.

Workers' Compensation Insurance. The *policy* does not affect any requirement for coverage by workers' compensation insurance. It also does not replace that insurance.

Entire Contract. This certificate, including any amendments and endorsements to it, is a summary of your benefits. It replaces any older certificates issued to you for the coverages described in the Summary of Benefits. All benefits are subject in every way to the entire *policy* which includes this certificate. The terms of the *policy* may be changed only by a written endorsement signed by one of our authorized officers. No agent or employee has any authority to change any of the terms, or waive the provisions of, the *policy*.

Liability For Statements. No statements made by you, unless they appear on a written form signed by you or are fraudulent, will be used to deny a claim under the *policy*. Statements made by you will not be deemed warranties. With regard to each statement, no statement will be used by us in defense to a claim unless it appears in a written form signed by you and then only if a copy has been furnished to you. After two years following the filing of such claim, if the coverage under which such claim is filed has been in force during that time, no such statement will be used to deny such a claim, unless the statement is fraudulent.

No claim for *covered expense* you incur in connection with a *pre-existing condition* will be reduced or denied after you have been covered for six consecutive months under the *policy*, unless the disease, illness, injury or physical condition was specifically excluded from coverage by name or description. Also, if you were covered under *creditable coverage*, the time spent under the *creditable coverage* will be used to satisfy, or reduce, the six consecutive month period.

Conformity with Laws. Any provision of the *policy* which, on its effective date, is in conflict with the laws of the governing jurisdiction, is hereby amended to conform to the minimum requirements of such laws.

Certificate of Creditable Coverage. Certificates of creditable coverage are issued automatically when your coverage under this *plan* ends. We will also provide a certificate of creditable coverage in response to your request, or to a request made on your behalf, at any time while you are covered under this *plan* and up to 24 months after your coverage under this *plan* ends. The certificate of creditable coverage documents your coverage under this *plan*. To request a certificate of creditable coverage, please call the customer service telephone number listed on your ID card.

Physical Examination. At our expense, we have the right and opportunity to examine any *insured person* claiming benefits when and as often as reasonably necessary while a claim is pending.

Legal Actions. No attempt to recover on the plan through legal or equity action may be made until at least 60 days after the written proof of loss has been furnished as required by this plan. No such action may be started later than three years from the time written proof of loss is required to be furnished.

INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REVIEW OF DENIALS OF EXPERIMENTAL OR INVESTIGATIVE TREATMENT

If coverage for a proposed treatment is denied because we determine that the treatment is *experimental* or *investigative*, you may ask that the denial be reviewed by an external independent medical review organization contracting with the California Department of Insurance ("CDI"). Your request for this review may be submitted to the CDI. You pay no application or processing fees of any kind for this review. You have the right to provide information in support of your request for review. A decision not to participate in this review process may cause you to forfeit any statutory right to pursue legal action against us regarding the disputed health care service. We will send you an application form and an addressed envelope for you to use to request this review with any grievance disposition letter denying coverage for this reason. You may also request an application form by calling us at the telephone number listed on your identification card or write to us at Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company, 21555 Oxnard Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. To qualify for this review, all of the following conditions must be met:

- You have a life-threatening or seriously debilitating condition, described as follows:
 - ◆ A life-threatening condition is a condition or disease where the likelihood of death is high unless the course of the disease is interrupted or a condition or disease with a potentially fatal outcome where the end point of clinical intervention is the patient's survival.
 - ◆ A seriously debilitating condition is a disease or condition that causes major, irreversible morbidity.
- Your *physician* must certify that either (a) standard treatment has not been effective in improving your condition, (b) standard treatment is not medically appropriate, or (c) there is no more beneficial standard treatment covered by this *plan* than the proposed treatment.
- The proposed treatment must be requested by you or by a licensed board certified or board eligible *physician* qualified to treat your condition. The treatment requested must be likely to be more beneficial for you than standard treatments based on two documents of scientific and medical evidence from the following sources:
 - a) Peer-reviewed scientific studies published in or accepted for publication by medical journals that meet nationally recognized standards;

- b) Medical literature meeting the criteria of the National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine for indexing in Index Medicus, Excerpta Medicus (EMBASE), Medline, and MEDLARS database of Health Services Technology Assessment Research (HSTAR);
- c) Medical journals recognized by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, under Section 1861(t)(2) of the Social Security Act;
- d) Either of the following: (i) The American Hospital Formulary Service's Drug Information, or (ii) the American Dental Association Accepted Dental Therapeutics;
- e) Any of the following references, if recognized by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as part of an anticancer chemotherapeutic regimen: (i) the Elsevier Gold Standard's Clinical Pharmacology, (ii) the National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drug and Biologics Compendium, or (iii) the Thomson Micromedex DrugDex;
- f) Findings, studies or research conducted by or under the auspices of federal governmental agencies and nationally recognized federal research institutes, including the Federal Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, National Academy of Sciences, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, and any national board recognized by the National Institutes of Health for the purpose of evaluating the medical value of health services; and
- g) Peer reviewed abstracts accepted for presentation at major medical association meetings.

In all cases, the certification must include a statement of the evidence relied upon.

You are not required to go through our grievance process for more than 30 days. If your grievance needs expedited review, you are not required to go through our grievance process for more than three days.

You must request this review within six months of the date you receive a denial notice from us in response to your grievance, or from the end of the 30 day or three day grievance period, whichever applies. This application deadline may be extended by the CDI for good cause.

Within three business days of receiving notice from the CDI of your request for review we will send the reviewing panel all relevant medical records and documents in our possession, as well as any additional information submitted by you or your *physician*. Any newly developed or discovered relevant medical records identified by us or by a qualified *physician* after the initial documents are sent will be immediately forwarded to the reviewing panel. The external independent review organization will complete its review and render its opinion within 30 days of its receipt of request for review (or within seven days if your *physician* determines that the proposed treatment would be significantly less effective if not provided promptly). This timeframe may be extended by up to three days for any delay in receiving necessary records.

INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REVIEW OF GRIEVANCES INVOLVING A DISPUTED HEALTH CARE SERVICE

You may request an independent medical review ("IMR") of disputed health care services from the California Department of Insurance ("CDI") if you believe that we have improperly denied, modified, or delayed health care services. A "disputed health care service" is any health care service eligible for coverage and payment under your *plan* that has been denied, modified, or delayed by us, in whole or in part because the service is not *medically necessary*.

The IMR process is in addition to any other procedures or remedies that may be available to you. You pay no application or processing fees of any kind for IMR. You have the right to provide information in support of the request for IMR. We must provide you with an IMR application form and an addressed envelope for you to use to request IMR with any grievance disposition letter that denies, modifies, or delays health care services. A decision not to participate in the IMR process may cause you to forfeit any statutory right to pursue legal action against us regarding the disputed health care service.

Eligibility: The CDI will review your application for IMR to confirm that:

1. (a) Your provider has recommended a health care service as *medically necessary*, or
 - (b) You have received *urgent care* or *emergency services* that a provider determined was *medically necessary*, or
 - (c) You have been seen by a provider for the diagnosis or treatment of the medical condition for which you seek independent review;
2. The disputed health care service has been denied, modified, or delayed by us, based in whole or in part on a decision that the health care service is not *medically necessary*; and

3. You have filed a grievance with us and the disputed decision is upheld or the grievance remains unresolved after 30 days. If your grievance requires expedited review you need not participate in our grievance process for more than three days. The CDI may waive the requirement that you follow our grievance process in extraordinary and compelling cases.

You must apply for IMR within six months of the date you receive a denial notice from us in response to your grievance or from the end of the 30 day or three day grievance period, whichever applies. This application deadline may be extended by the CDI for good cause.

If your case is eligible for IMR, the dispute will be submitted to a medical specialist or specialists who will make an independent determination of whether or not the care is *medically necessary*. You will receive a copy of the assessment made in your case. If the IMR determines the service is *medically necessary*, we will provide benefits for the health care service.

For non-urgent cases, the IMR organization designated by the CDI must provide its determination within 30 days of receipt of your application and supporting documents. For urgent cases involving an imminent and serious threat to your health, including, but not limited to, serious pain, the potential loss of life, limb, or major bodily function, or the immediate and serious deterioration of your health, the IMR organization must provide its determination within 3 days.

For more information regarding the IMR process, or to request an application form, please call us at the customer service telephone number listed on your ID card.

BINDING ARBITRATION

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

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

The *insured person* and Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health agree to be bound by these arbitration provisions and acknowledge that they are giving up their right to trial by jury for both medical malpractice claims and any other disputes.

The *insured person* and Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health agree to give up the right to participate in class arbitrations against each other. Even if applicable law permits class actions or class arbitrations, the *insured person* waives any right to pursue, on a class basis, any such controversy or claim against Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health and Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health waives any right to pursue on a class basis any such controversy or claim against the *insured person*.

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

The arbitration is initiated by the *insured person* making written demand on Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health. The arbitration will be conducted by Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services ("JAMS"), according to its applicable Rules and Procedures. If for any reason JAMS is unavailable to conduct the arbitration, the arbitration will be conducted by another neutral arbitration entity, by agreement of the *insured person* and Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health, or by order of the court, if the *insured person* and Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health cannot agree.

The costs of the arbitration will be allocated per the JAMS Policy on Consumer Arbitrations. If the arbitration is not conducted by JAMS, the costs will be shared equally by the parties, except in cases of extreme financial hardship, upon application to the neutral arbitration entity to which the parties have agreed, in which cases, Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health will assume all or a portion of the costs of the arbitration.

Please send all Binding Arbitration demands in writing to Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company, 21555 Oxnard Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 marked to the attention of the Customer Service Department listed on your identification card.

DEFINITIONS

The meanings of key terms used in this certificate are shown below. Whenever any of the key terms shown below appear, it will appear in italicized letters. When any of the terms below are italicized in your certificate, you should refer to this section.

Accidental injury is physical harm or disability which is the result of a specific unexpected incident caused by an outside force. The physical harm or disability must have occurred at an identifiable time and place. Accidental injury does not include illness or infection, except infection of a cut or wound.

Ambulatory surgical center is a freestanding outpatient surgical facility. It must be licensed as an outpatient clinic according to state and local laws and must meet all requirements of an outpatient clinic providing surgical services. It must also meet accreditation standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations or the Accreditation Association of Ambulatory Health Care.

Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company (Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health) is the company which insures the benefits of the *plan*.

Child meets the *plan's* eligibility requirements for children as outlined under HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS.

Covered expense is the expense you incur for a covered service or supply, but not more than the maximum amounts described in YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS: HOW COVERED EXPENSE IS DETERMINED. Expense is incurred on the date you receive the service or supply.

Creditable coverage is any individual or group plan that provides medical, hospital and surgical coverage, including continuation or conversion coverage, coverage under Medicare or Medicaid, TRICARE, the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, programs of the Indian Health Service or of a tribal organization, a state health benefits risk pool, coverage through the Peace Corps, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, or a public health plan established or maintained by a state, the United States government, or a foreign country. Creditable coverage does not include accident only, credit, coverage for on-site medical clinics, disability income, coverage only for a specified disease or condition, hospital indemnity or other fixed indemnity insurance, Medicare supplement, long-term care insurance, dental, vision, workers' compensation insurance, automobile insurance, no-fault insurance, or any medical coverage designed to supplement other private or governmental plans. Creditable coverage is used to reduce the length of the *pre-existing condition* exclusion period under this *plan* and/or to set up eligibility rules for children who cannot get a self-sustaining job due to a physical or mental condition.

If your prior coverage was through an employer, you will receive credit for that coverage if it ended because your employment ended, the availability of medical coverage offered through employment or sponsored by the employer terminated, or the employer's contribution toward medical coverage terminated, and any lapse between the date that coverage ended and the date you become eligible under this *plan* is no more than 180 days (not including any waiting period imposed under this *plan*).

If your prior coverage was not through an employer, you will receive credit for that coverage if any lapse between the date that coverage ended and the date you become eligible under this *plan* is no more than 63 days (not including any waiting period imposed under this *plan*).

Custodial care is care provided primarily to meet your personal needs. This includes help in walking, bathing or dressing. It also includes: preparing food or special diets; feeding by utensil, tube or gastrostomy; suctioning and administration of medicine which is usually self-administered or any other care which does not require continuing services of medical personnel.

If *medically necessary*, benefits will be provided for feeding (by tube or gastrostomy) and suctioning.

Customary and reasonable charge, as determined annually by us, is a charge which falls within the common range of fees billed by a majority of *physicians* for a procedure in a given geographic region. If it exceeds that range, the expense must be justified based on the complexity or severity of treatment for a specific case.

Day treatment center is an outpatient psychiatric facility which is licensed according to state and local laws to provide outpatient programs and treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* or substance abuse under the supervision of *physicians*.

Domestic partner meets the *plan's* eligibility requirements for domestic partners as outlined under HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS: HOW COVERAGE BEGINS.

Effective date is the date your coverage begins under this *plan*.

Emergency is a sudden, serious, and unexpected acute illness, injury, or condition (including without limitation sudden and unexpected severe pain), or a *psychiatric emergency medical condition*, which the *insured person* reasonably perceives could permanently endanger health if medical treatment is not received immediately. We will have sole and final determination as to whether services were rendered in connection with an emergency.

Emergency services are services provided in connection with the initial treatment of a medical or psychiatric *emergency*.

Experimental procedures are those that are mainly limited to laboratory and/or animal research.

Facility-based care is care provided in a *hospital, psychiatric health facility, residential treatment center or day treatment center* for the treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* or substance abuse.

Full-time employee meets the *plan's* eligibility requirements for full-time employees as outlined under HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS.

Group refers to the business entity to which we have issued this *policy*. The name of the group is PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY.

Home health agencies are home health care providers which are licensed according to state and local laws to provide skilled nursing and other services on a visiting basis in your home, and recognized as home health providers under Medicare and/or accredited by a recognized accrediting agency such as the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

Hospice is an agency or organization primarily engaged in providing palliative care (pain control and symptom relief) to terminally ill persons and supportive care to those persons and their families to help them cope with terminal illness. This care may be provided in the home or on an inpatient basis. A hospice must be: (1) certified by Medicare as a hospice; (2) recognized by Medicare as a hospice demonstration site; or (3) accredited as a hospice by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. A list of hospices meeting these criteria is available upon request.

Hospital is a facility which provides diagnosis, treatment and care of persons who need acute inpatient hospital care under the supervision of *physicians*. It must be licensed as a general acute care hospital according to state and local laws. It must also be registered as a general hospital by the American Hospital Association and meet accreditation standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations.

For the limited purpose of inpatient care, the definition of hospital also includes: (1) *psychiatric health facilities* (only for the acute phase of a *mental or nervous disorder* or substance abuse), and (2) *residential treatment centers*.

Infertility is: (1) the presence of a condition recognized by a *physician* as a cause of infertility; or (2) the inability to conceive a pregnancy or to carry a pregnancy to a live birth after a year or more of regular sexual relations without contraception.

Insured employee (employee) is the primary insured; that is, the person who is allowed to enroll under this *plan* for himself or herself and his or her eligible *family members*.

Insured family member (family member) meets the *plan's* eligibility requirements for family members as outlined under HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS.

Insured person is the *insured employee* or *insured family member*. An insured person may enroll under only one health plan provided by Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health, or any of its affiliates, which is sponsored by the *group*.

Investigative procedures or medications are those that have progressed to limited use on humans, but which are not widely accepted as proven and effective within the organized medical community.

Medically necessary procedures, supplies, equipment or services are those considered to be:

1. Appropriate and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of the medical condition;
2. Provided for the diagnosis or direct care and treatment of the medical condition;
3. Within standards of good medical practice within the organized medical community;
4. Not primarily for your convenience, or for the convenience of your *physician* or another provider; and
5. The most appropriate procedure, supply, equipment or service which can safely be provided. The most appropriate procedure, supply, equipment or service must satisfy the following requirements:
 - a. There must be valid scientific evidence demonstrating that the expected health benefits from the procedure, supply, equipment or service are clinically significant and produce a greater likelihood of benefit, without a disproportionately greater risk of harm or complications, for you with the particular medical condition being treated than other possible alternatives; and

- b. Generally accepted forms of treatment that are less invasive have been tried and found to be ineffective or are otherwise unsuitable; and
- c. For *hospital stays*, acute care as an inpatient is necessary due to the kind of services you are receiving or the severity of your condition, and safe and adequate care cannot be received by you as an outpatient or in a less intensified medical setting.

Mental or nervous disorders, for the purposes of this *plan*, are conditions that affect thinking and the ability to figure things out, perception, mood and behavior. A mental or nervous disorder is recognized primarily by symptoms or signs that appear as distortions of normal thinking, distortions of the way things are perceived (*e.g.*, seeing or hearing things that are not there), moodiness, sudden and/or extreme changes in mood, depression, and/or unusual behavior such as depressed behavior or highly agitated or manic behavior. Mental or nervous disorders include *severe mental disorders* as defined in this plan (see definition of “severe mental disorders”).

Any condition meeting this definition is a mental or nervous disorder no matter what the cause of the condition may be.

Other health care provider is one of the following providers:

1. A certified registered nurse anesthetist;
2. A facility which provides diagnostic radiology services;
3. A blood bank;
4. A durable medical equipment outlet;
5. A clinical laboratory;
6. A *skilled nursing facility*;
7. A *home health agency*;
8. A licensed ambulance company;
9. A *hospice*;
10. An *ambulatory surgical center*; or
11. A retail pharmacy.

The provider must be licensed according to state and local laws to provide covered medical services.

Physician means:

1. A doctor of medicine (M.D.) or doctor of osteopathy (D.O.) who is licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy where the care is provided; or

2. One of the following providers, but only when the provider is licensed to practice where the care is provided, is rendering a service within the scope of that license and such license is required to render that service, is providing a service for which benefits are specified in this booklet, and when benefits would be provided if the services were provided by a physician as defined above:
- a. A dentist (D.D.S. or D.M.D.)
 - b. An optometrist (O.D.)
 - c. A dispensing optician
 - d. A podiatrist or chiropodist (D.P.M., D.S.P. or D.S.C.)
 - e. A licensed clinical psychologist
 - f. A chiropractor (D.C.)
 - g. An acupuncturist (A.C.)
 - h. A licensed midwife
 - i. A licensed clinical social worker (L.C.S.W.)
 - j. A marriage and family therapist (M.F.T.)
 - k. A physical therapist (P.T. or R.P.T.)*
 - l. A speech pathologist*
 - m. An audiologist*
 - n. An occupational therapist (O.T.R.)*
 - o. A respiratory care practitioner (R.C.P.)*
 - p. A *psychiatric mental health nurse* (R.N.)*
 - q. A registered dietitian (R.D.)* for the provision of diabetic medical nutrition therapy only

***Note:** The providers indicated by asterisks (*) are covered only by referral of a physician as defined in 1 above.

Plan is the set of benefits described in this booklet and in the amendments to this booklet (if any). This plan is subject to the terms and conditions of the *policy* we have issued to the *group*. If changes are made to the plan, an amendment or revised booklet will be issued to the *group* for distribution to each *employee* affected by the change. (The word "plan" here does not mean the same as "plan" as used in ERISA.)

Policy is the Group Policy we have issued to the *group*.

Pre-existing condition means an illness, injury or condition which existed during the six-month period immediately prior to either (a) your *effective date* or (b) the first day of any waiting period required by the *group*, whichever is earlier. A condition is considered to have existed when you: (1) sought or received medical advice for that condition; (2) received medical care or treatment for that condition; or (3) received medical supplies, drugs or medicines for that condition.

Preventive Care Services include routine examinations, screenings, tests, education, and immunizations administered with the intent of preventing future disease, illness, or injury. Services are considered preventive if you have no current symptoms or prior history of a medical condition associated with that screening or service. These services shall meet requirements as determined by federal and state law. Sources for determining which services are recommended include the following:

1. Services with an “A” or “B” rating from the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF);
2. Immunizations recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
3. Preventive care and screenings for infants, children, and adolescents as provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration; and
4. Additional preventive care and screening for women provided for in the guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration.

Please call us at the customer service number listed on your ID card for additional information about services that are covered by this *plan* as preventive care services. You may also refer to the following websites that are maintained by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

<http://www.healthcare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html>

<http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstfix.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip/>

Prior plan is a plan sponsored by the *group* which was replaced by this *plan* within 60 days. You are considered covered under the prior plan if you: (1) were covered under the prior plan on the date that plan terminated; (2) properly enrolled for coverage within 31 days of this *plan's* effective date; and (3) had coverage terminate solely due to the prior plan's termination.

Prosthetic devices are appliances which replace all or part of a function of a permanently inoperative, absent or malfunctioning body part. The term "prosthetic devices" includes orthotic devices, rigid or semi-supportive devices which restrict or eliminate motion of a weak or diseased part of the body.

Psychiatric emergency medical condition is a *mental or nervous disorder* that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity that the patient is either (1) an immediate danger to himself or herself or to others, or (2) immediately unable to provide for or utilize food, shelter, or clothing due to the *mental or nervous disorder*.

Psychiatric health facility is an acute 24-hour facility as defined in California Health and Safety Code 1250.2. It must be:

1. Licensed by the California Department of Health Services;
2. Qualified to provide short-term inpatient treatment according to the California Insurance Code;
3. Accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations; and
4. Staffed by an organized medical or professional staff which includes a *physician* as medical director.

Psychiatric mental health nurse is a registered nurse (R.N.) who has a master's degree in psychiatric mental health nursing, and is registered as a psychiatric mental health nurse with the state board of registered nurses.

Reasonable charge is a charge we consider not to be excessive based on the circumstances of the care provided, including: (1) level of skill; experience involved; (2) the prevailing or common cost of similar services or supplies; and (3) any other factors which determine value.

Residential treatment center is an inpatient treatment facility where the patient resides in a modified community environment and follows a comprehensive medical treatment regimen for treatment and rehabilitation as the result of a *mental or nervous disorder* or substance abuse. The facility must be licensed to provide psychiatric treatment of *mental or nervous disorders* or rehabilitative treatment of substance abuse according to state and local laws.

Retired employee is a former *full-time employee* who meets the eligibility requirements described in the "Eligible Status" provision in HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS.

Severe mental disorders include the following psychiatric diagnoses specified in California Insurance Code section 10144.5: schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, major depression, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, pervasive developmental disorder or autism, anorexia, and bulimia.

"Severe mental disorders" also includes serious emotional disturbances of a child as indicated by the presence of one or more mental disorders as identified in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders, other than primary substance abuse or developmental disorder, resulting in behavior inappropriate to the *child's* age according to expected developmental norms. The child must also meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. As a result of the mental disorder, the child has substantial impairment in at least two of the following areas: self-care, school functioning, family relationships, or ability to function in the community and is at risk of being removed from the home or has already been removed from the home or the mental disorder has been present for more than six months or is likely to continue for more than one year without treatment.
2. The child is psychotic, suicidal, or potentially violent.
3. The child meets special education eligibility requirements under California law (Government Code Section 7570).

Skilled nursing facility is an institution that provides continuous skilled nursing services. It must be licensed according to state and local laws and be recognized as a skilled nursing facility under Medicare.

Special care units are special areas of a *hospital* which have highly skilled personnel and special equipment for acute conditions that require constant treatment and observation.

Spouse meets the *plan's* eligibility requirements for spouses as outlined under HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS.

Stay is an inpatient confinement which begins when you are admitted to a facility and ends when you are discharged from that facility.

Totally disabled employee is an *employee* who, because of illness or injury, is unable to work for income in any job for which he/she is qualified or for which he/she becomes qualified by training or experience, and who is in fact unemployed.

Totally disabled family member is a *family member* who is unable to perform all activities usual for persons of that age.

Totally disabled retired employee is a *retired employee* who is unable to perform all activities usual for persons of that age.

We (us, our) refers to Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company.

Year or **calendar year** is a 12 month period starting January 1 at 12:01 a.m. Pacific Standard Time.

You (your) refers to the *insured employee* and *insured family members* who are enrolled for benefits under this *plan*.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health introduced its Language Assistance Program to provide certain written translation and oral interpretation services to California *insured persons* with limited English proficiency.

The Language Assistance Program makes it possible for you to access oral interpretation services and certain written materials vital to understanding your health coverage at no additional cost to you.

Written materials available for translation include grievance and appeal letters, consent forms, claim denial letters, and explanations of benefits. These materials are available in the following languages:

- Spanish
- Chinese
- Vietnamese
- Korean
- Tagalog

Oral interpretation services are available in additional languages.

To requesting a written or oral translation, please contact customer service by calling the phone number on your ID card to update your language preference to receive future translated documents or to request interpretation assistance.

For more information about the Language Assistance Program visit www.anthem.com/ca.

SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following information is provided to you in accordance with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) -- It is not a part of your certificate booklet.

1. **Plan Name.** The designated name of the Plan is Pepperdine University Health and Welfare Plan.
2. **Plan Sponsor.** The name and address of the entity which established and maintains the Plan is:

Pepperdine University
24255 Pacific Coast Highway
Malibu, CA 90263
(310) 506-4397

3. **Plan Numbers:**

The Employer's Identification Number (EIN) is 95-1644037.

The Plan Number is 501.

4. **Type of Plan.** The Plan is an employee welfare benefit plan providing group medical benefits.
5. **Source of Plan Contributions.** The contributions necessary to finance the Plan are provided by the employer and the employee. However, any contributions necessary to cover a retiree and/or his dependents are paid entirely by the retiree. Any required employee contributions under this plan are subject to the Pre-Tax Premium Cafeteria Plan of Pepperdine University.
6. **Plan Year.** The Plan's records are maintained on a plan year basis beginning each year on September 1 and ending on the following August 31.
7. **Type of Administration/Funding.** Benefits are furnished under a health care plan purchased by the Plan Sponsor and provided by Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health Insurance Company (Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health) under which Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health is financially responsible for the payment of benefits.

Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health's address is:

Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health Insurance Company
21555 Oxnard Street
Woodland Hills, California 91367

8. **Plan Administrator.** The name, address and telephone number of the Plan Administrator is:

Pepperdine University
24255 Pacific Coast University
Malibu, CA 90263
(310) 506-4397

9. **Agent for Service of Legal Process.** The name and address of the designated agent for the service of legal process for the Plan is:

Vice President and General Counsel
Pepperdine University
24255 Pacific Coast University
(310) 506-4607

Service of legal process may also be served on the Plan Administrator, Pepperdine University.

10. **Description of Benefits.** The certificate pages set forth the benefits, deductibles, copays, benefit maximums, limitations and exclusions, and the extent to which preventive care is provided under the Fee-for-Service Plan. An explanation of the benefits, copays, benefit maximums, limitations and exclusions and the extent to which preventive care is covered, may be found in the sections entitled TYPES OF PROVIDERS, SUMMARY OF BENEFITS, YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS (including the subsections HOW COVERED EXPENSE IS DETERMINED, DEDUCTIBLES, CO-PAYMENTS, OUT-OF-POCKET AMOUNTS AND MEDICAL BENEFIT MAXIMUMS, CONDITIONS OF COVERAGE, MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED, and MEDICAL CARE THAT IS NOT COVERED), PRE-EXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSION, REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTS OF THIRD PARTIES, COORDINATION OF BENEFITS, BENEFITS FOR MEDICARE ELIGIBLE INSURED PERSONS, UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM (including the subsection THE MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW PROCESS), PERSONAL CASE MANAGEMENT (including the subsections DISAGREEMENTS WITH MEDICAL MANAGEMENT DECISIONS and QUALITY ASSURANCE), EXTENSION OF BENEFITS, GENERAL PROVISIONS, INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REVIEW OF DENIALS OF EXPERIMENTAL OR INVESTIGATIVE TREATMENT, INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REVIEW OF GRIEVANCES INVOLVING A DISPUTED HEALTH CARE SERVICE, BINDING ARBITRATION, and DEFINITIONS.

If your health care plan includes coverage for pregnancy and maternity care, Federal law prohibits the restriction of benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a normal delivery or 96 hours following a cesarean section. A health care provider also may not be required to obtain authorization for prescribing a length of stay for childbirth that does not exceed these time periods.

Statement of Rights Under the Women’s Cancer Rights Act of 1998

Did you know that your plan, as required by the Women’s Cancer Rights Act of 1998, provides benefits for mastectomy-related services including reconstruction and surgery to achieve symmetry between the breasts, prostheses, and complications resulting from mastectomy (including lymphedema)? Call your Plan Administrator (see item 8 above) for more information.

Coverage for a Child Due to a Qualified Medical Support Order (“QMCSO”)

If you or your spouse are required, due to a QMCSO, to provide coverage for your child(ren), you may ask your employer or Plan Administrator to provide you, without charge, a written statement outlining the procedures for getting coverage for such child(ren).

11. **Eligibility for Participation.** The eligibility requirements for participation under the Fee-for-Service Plan are set forth in the certificate booklet in the section entitled HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS under the subsection HOW COVERAGE BEGINS.
12. **Summary Plan Modification Date:** Amended through September 1, 2011.
13. **Grounds for Ineligibility or Loss or Denial of Benefits.** Details describing the circumstances which may result in: (a) disqualification from the Fee-for-Service Plan; (b) ineligibility for benefits; or (c) denial, loss, forfeiture or suspension of benefits under the Plan are set forth and identified in the certificate booklet, as outlined below:
 - Reasons for ineligibility or loss of benefits may be found in the section entitled HOW COVERAGE BEGINS AND ENDS under the subsection HOW COVERAGE ENDS.

- Benefits may be denied or suspended if statements a Plan participant has made in connection with obtaining coverage were false.
- Information concerning situations under which benefits may be reduced or denied may also be found in the sections entitled TYPES OF PROVIDERS, SUMMARY OF BENEFITS, YOUR MEDICAL BENEFITS (including the subsections HOW COVERED EXPENSE IS DETERMINED, DEDUCTIBLES, CO-PAYMENTS, OUT-OF-POCKET AMOUNTS AND MEDICAL BENEFIT MAXIMUMS, CONDITIONS OF COVERAGE, MEDICAL CARE THAT IS COVERED, and MEDICAL CARE THAT IS NOT COVERED), PRE-EXISTING CONDITION EXCLUSION, REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACTS OF THIRD PARTIES, COORDINATION OF BENEFITS, BENEFITS FOR MEDICARE ELIGIBLE INSURED PERSONS, UTILIZATION REVIEW PROGRAM (including the subsection THE MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW PROCESS), PERSONAL CASE MANAGEMENT (including the subsections DISAGREEMENTS WITH MEDICAL MANAGEMENT DECISIONS and QUALITY ASSURANCE), EXTENSION OF BENEFITS, GENERAL PROVISIONS, INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REVIEW OF DENIALS OF EXPERIMENTAL OR INVESTIGATIVE TREATMENT, INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REVIEW OF GRIEVANCES INVOLVING A DISPUTED HEALTH CARE SERVICE, BINDING ARBITRATION, and DEFINITIONS.

14. Claims Procedures. The certificate contains information on reporting claims, including the time limitations on submitting a claim. Claim forms may be obtained from the Plan Administrator or Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health. In addition to this information, ERISA applies some additional claim procedure rules. The addition rules required by ERISA are set forth below.

Urgent Care. Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health must notify you, within 72-hours after they receive your request for benefits, that they have it and what they determine your benefits to be. If your request for benefits does not contain all the necessary information, they must notify you within 24-hours after they get it and tell you what information is missing. Any notice to you by them will be orally, by telephone, or in writing by facsimile or other fast means. You have at least 48-hours to give them the additional information they need to process your request for benefits. You may give them the additional information they need orally, by telephone, or in writing by facsimile or other fast means.

If your request for benefits is denied in whole or in part, you will receive a notice of the denial within 72-hours after Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health's receipt of the request for benefits, or 48 hours after receipt of all the information they need to process your request for benefits if the information is received within the time frame noted above. The notice will explain the reason for the adverse benefit determination and the plan provisions upon which the denial decision was based. You have 180-days to appeal their adverse benefit determination. You may appeal their decision orally, by telephone, or in writing by facsimile or other fast means. Within 72-hours after they receive your appeal, they must notify you of their decision, except as otherwise noted below. They will notify you orally, by telephone, or in writing by facsimile or other fast means. If your request for benefits is no longer considered urgent, it will be handled in the same manner as a Non-Urgent Care Pre-Service or Post-service appeal, depending upon the circumstances.

Non-Urgent Care Pre-Service (when care has not yet been received). Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health must notify you within 15-days after they receive your request for benefits that they have it and what they have determined your benefits to be. If they need more than 15-days to determine your benefits, due to reasons beyond their control, they must notify you within that 15-day period that they need more time to determine your benefits. But, in any case, even with an extension, they cannot take more than 30-days to determine your benefits. If you do not properly submit all the necessary information for your request for benefits to them, they must notify you, within 5-days after they get it and tell you what information is missing. You have 45-days to provide them with the information they need to process your request for benefits. The time period during which Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health is waiting for receipt of the necessary information is not counted toward the time frame in which Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health must make the benefit determination.

If your request for benefits is denied in whole or in part, you will receive a written notice of the denial within the time frame stated above, or after Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health has all the information they need to process your request for benefits, if the information is received within the time frame noted above. The written notice will explain the reason for the adverse benefit determination and the plan provisions upon which the denial decision is based. You have 180-days to appeal their adverse benefit determination. Your appeal must be in writing. Within 30-days after they receive your appeal, they must notify you of their decision about it. Their notice of their decision will be in writing.

Concurrent Care Decisions:

- **Reduction of Benefits** – If, after approving a request for benefits in connection with your illness or injury, Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health decides to reduce or end the benefits they have approved for you, in whole or in part:
 - They must notify you sufficiently in advance of the reduction in benefits, or the end of benefits, to allow you the opportunity to appeal their decision before the reduction in benefits or end of benefits occurs. In their notice to you, Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health must explain their reason for reducing or ending your benefits and the plan provisions upon which the decision was made.
 - To keep the benefits you already have approved, you must successfully appeal Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health's decision to reduce or end those benefits. You must make your appeal to them at least 24-hours prior to the occurrence of the reduction or ending of benefits. If you appeal the decision to reduce or end your benefits when there is less than 24-hours to the occurrence of the reduction or ending of benefits, your appeal may be treated as if you were appealing an urgent care denial of benefits (see the section "Urgent Care," above), depending upon the circumstances of your condition.
 - If Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health receives your appeal for benefits at least 24-hours prior to the occurrence of the reduction or ending of benefits, they must notify you of their decision regarding your appeal within 24-hours of their receipt of it. If Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health denies your appeal of their decision to reduce or end your benefits, in whole or in part, they must explain the reason for their denial of benefits and the plan provisions upon which the decision was made. You may further appeal the denial of benefits according to the rules for appeal of an urgent care denial of benefits (see the section "Urgent Care," above).

- **Extension of Benefits** – If, while you are undergoing a course of treatment in connection with your illness or injury, for which benefits have been approved, you would like to request an extension of benefits for additional treatments:
 - You must make a request to Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health for the additional benefits at least 24-hours prior to the end of the initial course of treatment that had been previously approved for benefits. If you request additional benefits when there is less than 24-hours till the end of the initially prescribed course of treatment, your request will be handled as if it was a new request for benefits and not an extension and, depending on the circumstances, it may be handled as an Urgent or Non-Urgent Care Pre-service request for benefits.
 - If Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health receives your request for additional benefits at least 24-hours prior to the end of the initial course of treatment, previously approved for benefits, they must notify you of their decision regarding your request within 24-hours of their receipt of it if your request is for urgent care benefits. If Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health denies your request for additional benefits, in whole or in part, they must explain the reason for their denial of benefits and the plan provisions upon which the decision was made. You may appeal the adverse benefit determination according to the rules for appeal for Urgent, Pre-Service or Post-Service adverse benefit determinations, depending upon the circumstances.

Non - Urgent Care Post-Service (reimbursement for cost of medical care). Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health must notify you, within 30-days after they receive your claim for benefits, that they have it and what they determine your benefits to be. If they need more than 30-days to determine your benefits, due to reasons beyond their control, they must notify you within that 30-day period that they need more time to determine your benefits. But, in any case, even with an extension, they cannot take more than 45-days to determine your benefits. If you do not submit all the necessary information for your claim to them, they must notify you, within 30-days after they get it and tell you what information is missing. You have 45-days to provide them with the information they need to process your claim. The time period during which Blue Cross is waiting for receipt of the necessary information is not counted toward the time frame in which Blue Cross must make the benefit determination.

If your claim is denied in whole or in part, you will receive a written notice of the adverse benefit determination within the time frame stated above, or after Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health has all the information they need to process your claim, if the information is received within the time frame noted above. The written notice will explain the reason for the adverse benefit determination and the plan provisions upon which the denial decision is based. You have 180-days to appeal their decision. Your appeal must be in writing. Within 60-days after they receive your appeal, they must notify you of their decision about it. Their notice to you or their decision will be in writing.

Note: You, your beneficiary, or a duly authorized representative may appeal any denial of a claim for benefits with Anthem Blue Cross Life & Health and request a review of the denial. In connection with such a request:

- Documents pertinent to the administration of the Plan may be reviewed free of charge; and
- Issues outlining the basis of the appeal may be submitted.

You may have representation throughout the appeal and review procedure.

For the purposes of this provision, the meanings of the terms “urgent care,” “Non-Urgent Care Pre-Service,” and “Non - Urgent Care Post-Service,” used in this provision, have the meanings set forth by ERISA for a “claim involving urgent care,” “pre-service claim,” and “post-service claim,” respectively.

15. Amendment and Termination of the Plan. Pepperdine University (Plan Administrator) reserves the right to change, suspend, amend or end the benefits program, and the terms on which benefits, if any, will be available to its employees. The Vice President for Finance and Administration of Pepperdine University is authorized to amend or modify, in a manner consistent with the terms of the Group Benefit Agreement, or terminate the benefits program at any time and from time to time. Any such amendment, modification or termination will be made by written amendment executed by the Vice President for Finance and Administration of the University.

PLEASE NOTE: Please do not interpret any statement in this booklet to mean that your participation in Pepperdine University's benefits program is a guarantee of continued employment or is intended to be an employment contract of any form.

STATEMENT OF ERISA RIGHTS

As a participant in the Plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all Plan participants shall be entitled to:

Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

- Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other locations, such as worksites, all Plan documents, including insurance contracts, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.
- Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The Plan Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies;
- Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report; the Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary financial report.

Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

- Continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review this summary plan description and the documents governing the plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.
- Reduction or elimination of exclusionary periods of coverage for preexisting conditions under your group health plan, if you have creditable coverage from another plan. You should be provided a certificate of creditable coverage, free of charge, from your group health plan or health insurance issuer when you lose coverage under the plan, when you become entitled to elect COBRA continuation coverage, when your COBRA continuation coverage ceases, if you request it before losing coverage, or if you request it up to 24 months after losing coverage. Without evidence of creditable coverage, you may be subject to a preexisting condition exclusion for 12 months (18 months for late enrollees) after your enrollment date in your coverage.

Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries

In addition to creating rights for Plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of your benefit Plan. The people who operate your Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other Plan participants and beneficiaries.

No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

Enforce Your Rights

If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report from the plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a federal court. In such case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials requested and to pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the Administrator.

If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or federal court, except that, any dispute concerning denial or partial denial of a claim must be resolved by binding arbitration as provided in the Plan booklet, unless otherwise prohibited under any applicable state or federal law. In addition, if you disagree with the plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or a medical child support order, you may file suit in Federal court.

If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

Assistance with Your Questions

If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.