

SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS

Important Notice

Effective beginning with Plan Years on and after January 1, 2022

This Summary of Material Modification (“SMM”) describes changes to this health plan required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, including the No Surprises Act. The following shall be deemed to be an amendment to the Plan.

The following definitions are added to the Summary Plan Description:

“Certified IDR Entity”

“Certified IDR Entity” shall mean an entity responsible for conducting determinations under the No Surprises Act and that has been properly certified by the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, and the Department of the Treasury.

“Independent Freestanding Emergency Department”

“Independent Freestanding Emergency Department” means a health care facility that is geographically separate and distinct, and licensed separately, from a Hospital under applicable state law, and which provides any Emergency Services.

“Participating Health Care Facility”

“Participating Health Care Facility” shall mean a Hospital or Hospital Outpatient department, critical access Hospital, Ambulatory Surgical Center, or other Provider as required by law, which has a direct or indirect contractual relationship with the Plan with respect to the furnishing of a healthcare item or service. A single direct contract or case agreement between a health care facility and a plan constitutes a contractual relationship for purposes of this definition with respect to the parties to the agreement and particular individual(s) involved.

“Qualifying Payment Amount”

“Qualifying Payment Amount” means the median of the contracted rates recognized by the Plan, or recognized by all plans serviced by the Plan’s Third Party Administrator (if calculated by the Third Party Administrator), for the same or a similar item or service provided by a Provider in the same or similar specialty in the same geographic region. If there are insufficient (meaning at least three) contracted rates available to determine a Qualifying Payment Amount, said amount will be determined by referencing a state all-payer claims database or, if unavailable, any eligible third-party database in accordance with applicable law

“Recognized Amount”

“Recognized Amount” shall mean, except for Non-Network air ambulance services, an amount determined under an applicable all-payer model agreement, or if unavailable, an amount determined by applicable state law. If no such amounts are available or applicable and for Non-Network air ambulance services generally, the Recognized Amount shall mean the lesser of a Provider’s billed charge or the Qualifying Payment Amount.

The definition of Emergency Services is changed to the following:

Emergency Services”

“Emergency Services” shall mean, with respect to an Emergency Medical Condition, the following:

1. An appropriate medical screening examination (as required under section 1867 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1395dd) that is within the capability of the emergency department of a

Hospital or of an Independent Freestanding Emergency Department, as applicable, including ancillary services routinely available to the emergency department to evaluate such Emergency Medical Condition; and

2. Within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the Hospital or the Independent Freestanding Emergency Department, as applicable, such further medical examination and treatment as are required under section 1867 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395dd), or as would be required under such section if such section applied to an Independent Freestanding Emergency Department, to stabilize the patient (regardless of the department of the Hospital in which such further examination or treatment is furnished).

When furnished with respect to an Emergency Medical Condition, Emergency Services shall also include an item or service provided by a Non-Network Provider or Non-Participating Health Care Facility (regardless of the department of the Hospital in which items or services are furnished) after the Participant is stabilized and as part of Outpatient observation or an Inpatient or Outpatient stay with respect to the visit in which the Emergency Services are furnished, until such time as the Provider determines that the Participant is able to travel using non-medical transportation or non-emergency medical transportation, and the Participant is in a condition to, and in fact does, give informed consent to the Provider to be treated as a Non-Network Provider.

The definition of Maximum Allowable Charge is changed to the following:

“Maximum Allowable Charge”

The “Maximum Allowable Charge” shall mean the amount payable for a specific covered item under this Plan. The Maximum Allowable Charge will be a negotiated rate, if one exists.

For claims subject to the No Surprises Act (see “No Surprises Act – Emergency Services and Surprise Bills” within the section “Summary of Benefits,”) if no negotiated rate exists, the Maximum Allowable Charge will be the Qualifying Payment Amount, or an amount deemed payable by a Certified IDR Entity or a court of competent jurisdiction, if applicable.

If none of the above factors is applicable, the Plan Administrator will exercise its discretion to determine the Maximum Allowable Charge based on any of the following: Medicare reimbursement rates, Medicare cost data, amounts actually collected by Providers in the area for similar services, or average wholesale price (AWP) or manufacturer’s retail pricing (MRP). These ancillary factors will take into account generally-accepted billing standards and practices.

When more than one treatment option is available, and one option is no more effective than another, the least costly option that is no less effective than any other option will be considered within the Maximum Allowable Charge. The Maximum Allowable Charge will be limited to an amount which, in the Plan Administrator’s discretion, is charged for services or supplies that are not unreasonably caused by the treating Provider, including errors in medical care that are clearly identifiable, preventable, and serious in their consequence for patients. A finding of Provider negligence or malpractice is not required for services or fees to be considered ineligible pursuant to this provision.

In the Claims Procedures; Payment of Claims section, the External Review Process is changed to the following:

External Review Process

The Federal external review process does not apply to a denial, reduction, termination, or a failure to provide payment for a benefit based on a determination that a Claimant or beneficiary fails to meet the requirements for eligibility under the terms of a group health plan.

The Federal external review process, in accordance with the current Affordable Care Act regulations and other applicable law, applies only to:

1. Any eligible Adverse Benefit Determination (including a Final Internal Adverse Benefit Determination) by a plan or issuer that involves medical judgment (including, but not limited to, those based on the plan's or issuer's requirements for Medical Necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, or effectiveness of a covered benefit; its determination that a treatment is Experimental or Investigational; its determination whether a Claimant or beneficiary is entitled to a reasonable alternative standard for a reward under a wellness program; its determination whether a plan or issuer is complying with the nonquantitative treatment limitation provisions of Code section 9812 and § 54.9812-1, which generally require, among other things, parity in the application of medical management techniques), as determined by the external reviewer.
2. An Adverse Benefit Determination that involves consideration of whether the Plan is complying with the surprise billing and cost-sharing protections set forth in the No Surprises Act.
3. A rescission of coverage (whether or not the rescission has any effect on any particular benefit at that time).

In the Network and Non-Network Provider Arrangement provision of the Summary of Benefits section of the Plan, the following changes are made:

Except as outlined in “No Surprises Act – Emergency Services and Surprise Bills” below, if the charge billed by a Non-Network Provider for any covered service is higher than the Maximum Allowable Charge determined by the Plan, Participants are responsible for the excess unless the Provider accepts assignment of benefits as consideration in full for services rendered. Since Network Providers have agreed to accept a negotiated discounted fee as full payment for their services, Participants are not responsible for any billed amount that exceeds that fee. The Plan Administrator reserves the right to revoke any previously-given assignment of benefits or to proactively prohibit assignment of benefits to anyone, including any Provider, at its discretion.

To receive benefit consideration, Participants may need to submit claims for services provided by Non-Network Providers to the Third Party Administrator. Network Providers have agreed to bill the Plan directly, so that Participants do not have to submit claims themselves.

In the Network and Non-Network Provider Arrangement provision of the Summary of Benefits section of the Plan, the following is added:

If a Participant receives information with respect to an item or service from the Plan, its representative, or a database maintained by the Plan or its representative indicating that a particular Provider is an In-Network Provider and the Participant receives such item or service in reliance on that information, the Participant's Coinsurance, Copayment, Deductible, and out-of-pocket maximum will be calculated as if the Provider had been In-Network despite that information proving inaccurate.

Continuity of Care

In the event a Participant is a continuing care patient receiving a course of treatment from a Provider which is In-Network or otherwise has a contractual relationship with the Plan governing such care and that contractual relationship is terminated, not renewed, or otherwise ends for any reason other than the Provider's failure to meet applicable quality standards or for fraud, the Participant shall have the following rights to continuation of care.

The Plan shall notify the Participant in a timely manner that the Provider's contractual relationship with the Plan has terminated, and that the Participant has rights to elect continued transitional care from the Provider. If the Participant elects in writing to receive continued transitional care, Plan benefits will apply under the same terms and conditions as would be applicable had the termination not occurred, beginning on the date the Plan's notice of termination is provided and ending 90 days later or when the Participant ceases to be a continuing care patient, whichever is sooner.

For purposes of this provision, “continuing care patient” means an individual:

1. Who is undergoing a course of treatment for a serious and complex condition from a specific Provider;
2. Who is undergoing a course of institutional or Inpatient care from a specific Provider;
3. Who is scheduled to undergo non-elective surgery from a specific Provider, including receipt of postoperative care with respect to the surgery;
4. Who is pregnant and undergoing a course of treatment for the Pregnancy from a specific Provider; or
5. Who is or was determined to be terminally ill and is receiving treatment for such illness from a specific Provider.

Note that during continuation, although Plan benefits will be processed as if the termination had not occurred and the law requires the Provider to continue to accept the previously-contracted amount, the contract itself will have terminated, and thus the Plan may be unable to protect the Participant if the Provider pursues a balance bill.

No Surprises Act – Emergency Services and Surprise Bills

For Non-Network claims subject to the No Surprises Act (“NSA”), Participant cost-sharing will be the same amount as would be applied if the claim was provided by a Network Provider and will be calculated as if the Plan’s Allowable Expense was the Recognized Amount, regardless of the Plan’s actual Maximum Allowable Charge. The NSA prohibits Providers from pursuing Participants for the difference between the Maximum Allowable Charge and the Provider’s billed charge for applicable services, with the exception of valid Plan-appointed cost-sharing as outlined above. Any such cost-sharing amounts will accrue toward In-Network Deductibles and out of pocket maximums.

Benefits for claims subject to the NSA will be denied or paid within 30 days of receipt of an initial claim, and if approved will be paid directly to the Provider.

Claims subject to the NSA are those which are submitted for:

1. Emergency Services;
2. Non-emergency services rendered by a Non-Network Provider at a Participating Health Care Facility, provided the Participant has not validly waived the applicability of the NSA; and
3. Covered Non-Network air ambulance services.

For further information about your rights and protection under the No Surprises Act visit the following website <https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers>. To report potential violations of the Consolidated Appropriations No Surprise Act, contact Health and Human Services at 1-800-985-3059.

Please note that this is a modification to all applicable Summary Plan Descriptions for health (medical, dental and vision, as applicable) and shall be deemed to amend the Plan Document. All other terms and conditions of the Plan which are not affected by this Amendment are unchanged. In the event of conflict, this document controls.