

Aetna Life Insurance Company

Extraterritorial booklet-certificate amendment

Policyholder: Walmart
Group policy number: GP-0895530
Group control number: CN-0486824

Amendment effective date: January 1, 2024

This amendment is part of your booklet-certificate. It is effective on the date shown above and it replaces any other medical extraterritorial booklet-certificate amendment you may have received before.

Important note: The following apply only if you live in Washington. The benefits below will apply instead of those in your booklet-certificate.

Abortion

Eligible health services include services and supplies for an abortion. This is the voluntary termination of pregnancy performed by a **health professional**.

Acupuncture

Eligible health services include acupuncture. The service performed must be within the scope of an East Asian Medicine Practitioner's license, as regulated by Washington state law.

Home health care

Eligible health services include home health care services and home dialysis services provided by a **home health care agency** in the home, but only when all of the following criteria are met:

- You are homebound
- Your **health professional** orders them
- The services take the place of a **stay** in a **hospital** or a **skilled nursing facility**, or you are unable to receive the same services outside your home
- The services are a part of a **home health care plan**
- The services are skilled nursing services, home health aide services, palliative care services or medical social services, or are short-term speech, physical or occupational therapy
- Home health aide services are provided under the supervision of a registered nurse (**R.N.**)
- Medical social services are provided by or supervised by a **physician**, other **health professional** or social worker

Short-term physical, speech and occupational therapy provided in the home are subject to the same conditions and limitations imposed on therapy provided outside the home.

Home health care services do not include **custodial care**.

Exclusions

Your plan does not cover the following under this section:

- Services provided outside of the home (such as in conjunction with school, vacation, work or recreational activities)
- Transportation
- Services or supplies provided to a minor or dependent adult when a family member or caregiver is not present

Hospice care

Eligible health services include inpatient and outpatient **hospice care** when given as part of a **hospice care program**.

The types of hospice care services that are eligible for coverage include:

- **Room and board**
- Services and supplies furnished to you on an inpatient or outpatient basis
- Services by a **hospice care agency** or **hospice care** provided in a **hospital**
- Bereavement counseling
- Respite care
- Palliative care

Hospice care services provided by the **providers** below may be covered, even if the **providers** are not an employee of the **hospice care agency** responsible for your care:

- A **physician** or other **health professional** for consultation or case management
- A physical or occupational therapist
- A **home health care agency** for:
 - Physical and occupational therapy
 - Medical supplies
 - Outpatient **prescription drugs**
 - Psychological counseling
 - Dietary counseling
 - Palliative care

Exclusions

Your plan does not cover the following under this section:

- Funeral arrangements.
- Pastoral counseling.
- Financial or legal counseling. This includes estate planning and the drafting of a will.
- Homemaker or caretaker services. These are services which are not solely related to your care and may include:
 - Sitter or companion services for either you or other family members
 - Transportation
 - Maintenance of the house

Jaw joint disorder treatment

Eligible health services include the diagnosis and surgical treatment of **jaw joint disorder** by a **provider** which includes:

- The jaw joint itself, such as temporomandibular joint dysfunction (TMJ) syndrome
- Involving the relationship between the jaw joint and related muscles and nerves such as myofascial pain dysfunction (MPD)

The following are not covered under this benefit:

- Non-surgical treatment of **jaw joint disorder**

The following has been added to or replaced in the *Coverage and exclusions* section of your booklet-certificate.

Maternity and related newborn care

Covered services also include the inpatient use of **medically necessary** donor human milk obtained from a milk bank when prescribed by a licensed **health professional** for an infant who is medically or physically unable to receive maternal breast milk or participate in chest feeding or whose parent is medically or physically unable to produce maternal breast milk in sufficient quantities or caloric density or participate in chest feeding. Such infant must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Infant birth weight of less than 2,500 grams
- Infant gestational age equal to or less than 34 weeks
- Infant hypoglycemia
- A high risk for development of necrotizing enterocolitis, bronchopulmonary dysplasia, or retinopathy of prematurity
- A congenital or acquired gastrointestinal condition with long-term feeding or malabsorption complications
- Congenital heart disease requiring surgery in the first year of life
- An organ or bone marrow transplant
- Sepsis
- Congenital hypotonias associated with feeding difficulty or malabsorption
- Renal disease requiring dialysis in the first year of life
- Craniofacial anomalies
- An immune deficiency
- Neonatal abstinence syndrome
- Any other serious condition or acquired condition for which the use of donor human milk derived products is **medical necessary** and supports the treatment and recovery of the child
- Any infant still inpatient within 72 hours of birth without sufficient breast milk available

Donor human milk means human milk that has been contributed to a milk bank by one or more donors.

Milk bank means an organization that engages in the procurement, processing, storage, distribution, or use of human milk contributed by donors.

Mental Health Parity

In no event will the cost share for mental health services be any more restrictive than that for any other **physician** services covered under the plan.

Neurodevelopmental therapy

Eligible health services include rehabilitative and habilitative speech, physical or occupational therapy, but only if it is expected to:

- Restore or improve speech or a body function
- Develop speech or a body function that was lost or delayed because of an **illness** or because of a condition you had when you were born
- Maintain speech or a body function that would get worse because of an **illness** or because of a condition you had when you were born

Nutritional supplements

Eligible health services include amino acid modified preparations, dietary specialized formulas and low protein modified food products for the treatment of inherited metabolic diseases including phenylketonuria and eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorder.

For purposes of this benefit, “low protein modified food product” means foods that are specifically formulated to have less than one gram of protein per serving and intended to be used under the direction of a **health professional** for the dietary treatment of any inherited metabolic disease. Low protein modified food products do not include foods that are naturally low in protein.

Exclusions

Your plan does not cover the following under this section:

Any food item, including infant formulas, nutritional supplements, vitamins (including prescription vitamins), medical foods and other nutritional items, even if it is the sole source of nutrition, except as covered above

Physician

A skilled health care professional trained and licensed to practice medicine under the laws of the state where they practice; specifically, doctors of medicine or osteopathy.

The following has been added to or replaced in the *Coverage and exclusions* section of your booklet-certificate.

Important note:

Certain **prescription** drug cost share paid directly by you or on your behalf may count toward your **deductible** and will count toward your **maximum out-of-pocket limit**, if you have one. Contact us for details.

Mammograms

Eligible health services include the following routine cancer screenings:

- Mammograms, including 3-D mammograms (tomosynthesis)

The following has been added to or replaced in the *How your plan works* section of your booklet-certificate.

Surprise bill

There may be times when you unknowingly receive services from an **out-of-network provider**, even when you try to stay in the network for your **covered services**. You may get a bill at the out-of-network rate that you didn't expect. This is called a surprise bill. Review *Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills and Balance Billing in Washington State* that is attached to this certificate.

Coordination of benefits

Some people have health coverage under more than one health plan. If you do, we will work together with your other plan(s) to decide how much each plan pays. This is called coordination of benefits (COB).

Key terms

Here are some key terms we use in this section. These terms will help you understand this *COB* section.

Allowable expense means:

- A health care expense that any of your health plans cover to any degree. If the health care service is not covered by any of the plans, it is not an allowable expense. For example, **cosmetic surgery** generally is not an allowable expense under this plan.

In this section when we talk about a “plan” through which you may have other coverage for health care expenses, we mean:

- Group or non-group, blanket, or franchise health insurance policies issued by insurers, HMOs, or health care service contractors
- Labor-management trustee plans, labor organization plans, employer organization plans, or employee benefit organization plans
- Medicare or other governmental benefits
- Any contract that you can obtain or maintain only because of membership in or connection with a particular organization or group

Here’s how COB works

- When this is the primary plan, we will pay your medical claims first as if the other plan does not exist
- When this is the secondary plan, we will pay benefits after the primary plan and will reduce the payment based on any amount the primary plan paid
- We will never pay an amount that, together with payments from your other coverage, add up to more than 100% of the allowable expenses

Determining who pays

Reading from top to bottom the first rule that applies will determine which plan is primary and which is secondary. A plan that does not contain a COB provision is always the primary plan.

If you are covered as a:	Primary plan	Secondary plan
Non-dependent or dependent	The plan covering you as a non-dependent	The plan covering you as a dependent
Exception to the rule above when you are eligible for Medicare	If you or your spouse has Medicare coverage, the rule above may be reversed. If you have any questions about this you can contact us: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online: Log on to your Aetna secure member website at www.aetna.com• By phone: Call the number on your ID card	

COB rules for dependent children		
Child of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents who are married or living together 	The “birthday rule” applies. The plan of the parent whose birthday* (month and day only) falls earlier in the calendar year . *Same birthdays-the plan that has covered a parent longer is primary.	The plan of the parent born later in the year (month and day only).* *Same birthdays-the plan that has covered a parent longer is primary.
Child of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents separated or divorced or not living together • With court-order 	The plan of the parent whom the court said is responsible for health coverage. But if that parent has no coverage then their spouse’s plan is primary.	The plan of the other parent. But if that parent has no coverage, then their spouse’s plan is primary.
Child of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents separated or divorced or not living together – court-order states both parents are responsible for coverage or have joint custody 	Primary and secondary coverage is based on the birthday rule.	
Child of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents separated or divorced or not living together and there is no court-order 	The order of benefit payments is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan of the custodial parent pays first • The plan of the spouse of the custodial parent (if any) pays second • The plan of the noncustodial parents pays next • The plan of the spouse of the noncustodial parent (if any) pays last 	
Child covered by: Individual who is not a parent (i.e. stepparent or grandparent)	Treat the person the same as a parent when making the order of benefits determination. See <i>Child of</i> content above.	
Active or inactive employee	The plan covering you as an active employee (or as a dependent of an active employee) is primary to a plan covering you as a laid off or retired employee (or as a dependent of a former employee).	A plan that covers the person as a laid off or retired employee (or as a dependent of a former employee) is secondary to a plan that covers the person as an active employee (or as a dependent of an active employee).
COBRA or state continuation	The plan covering you as an employee or retiree or the dependent of an employee or retiree is primary to COBRA or state continuation coverage.	COBRA or state continuation coverage is secondary to the plan that covers the person as an employee or retiree or the dependent of an employee or retiree.

Longer or shorter length of coverage	If none of the above rules determine the order of payment, the plan that has covered the person longer is primary.
Other rules do not apply	If none of the above rules apply, the plans share expenses equally.

How are benefits paid?

Primary plan	The primary plan pays your claims as if there is no other health plan involved.
Secondary plan	The secondary plan calculates payment as if the primary plan did not exist and then applies that amount to any allowable expenses under the secondary plan that were not covered by the primary plan. The secondary plan will reduce payments so the total payments do not exceed 100% of the total allowable expense.
Benefit reserve Each family member has a separate benefit reserve for each calendar year	The benefit reserve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is made up of the amount that the secondary plan saved due to COB • Is used to cover any unpaid allowable expenses • Balance is erased at the end of each year

How COB works with Medicare

This section explains how the benefits under this plan interact with benefits available under Medicare.

Medicare, when used in this plan, means the health insurance provided by Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended. It also includes Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) or similar coverage that is an authorized alternative to Parts A and B of Medicare.

You are eligible for Medicare when you are covered under it by reason of:

- Age
- Disability
- End stage renal disease

When you are enrolled for Medicare, the plan coordinates the benefits it pays with the benefits that Medicare pays. Sometimes, this plan is the primary plan, which means that the plan pays benefits before Medicare pays benefits. Sometimes, this plan is the secondary plan, and pays benefits after Medicare or after an amount that Medicare would have paid.

Who pays first?

If you are eligible due to age and have group health plan coverage based on your or your spouse's current employment and:	Primary plan	Secondary plan
The employer has 20 or more employees	Your plan	Medicare
You are retired	Medicare	Your plan
If you have Medicare because of:		
End stage renal disease (ESRD)	Your plan will pay first for the first 30 months. Medicare will pay first after this 30 month period.	Medicare Your plan
A disability other than ESRD and the policyholder has more than 100 employees	Your plan	Medicare
Note regarding ESRD: If you were already eligible for Medicare due to age and then became eligible due to ESRD, Medicare will remain your primary plan and this plan will be secondary.		

This plan is secondary to Medicare in all other circumstances.

Charges that satisfy your Part B deductible will be applied in the order received. We will apply the largest charge first when two or more charges are received at the same time.

Other health coverage updates – contact information

You should contact us if you have any changes to your other coverage. We want to be sure our records are accurate so your claims are processed correctly.

- **Online:** Log on to your **Aetna** secure member website
- **By phone:** Call the number on your ID card

Right to receive and release needed information

We have the right to release or obtain any information we need for COB purposes. That includes information we need to recover any payments from your other health plans.

Right to pay another carrier

Sometimes another plan pays something we would have paid under your plan. When that happens, we will pay your plan benefit to the other plan.

Right of recovery

If we pay more than we should have under the COB rules, we may recover the excess from:

- Any person we paid or for whom we paid, or
- Any other plan that is responsible under these COB rules.

Important note: If you are covered by more than one health benefit plan, and you do not know which is your primary plan, you or your **provider** should contact any one of the health plans to verify which plan is primary. The health plan you contact is responsible for working with the other plan to determine which is primary and will let you know within 30 calendar days.

All health plans have timely claim filing requirements. If you or your **provider** fails to submit your claim to a secondary health plan within that plan's claim filing time limit, the plan can deny the claim. If you experience delays in the processing of your claim by the primary health plan, you or your provider will need to submit your claim to the secondary health plan within its claim filing time limit to prevent a denial of the claim.

To avoid delays in claims processing, if you are covered by more than one plan, you should promptly report to your **providers** and plans any changes in your coverage.

Adding new dependents

If your plan includes coverage for dependents, you can add the following new dependents any time during the year:

- A newborn child - Your newborn child is covered on your plan for the first 31 days after birth
 - When additional **premiums** are required, you must enroll the child within 60 days of birth to keep the newborn covered
 - If you miss this deadline, your newborn will not have benefits after the first 31 days
- An adopted child - You may put an adopted child on your plan on the date the child is placed for adoption
 - "Placed for adoption" means the assumption and retention of a legal obligation for total or partial support of a child in anticipation of adoption of the child
 - When additional **premiums** are required, you must enroll the child within 60 days of placement
 - Your adopted child's coverage will start from the date of placement
 - If you miss this deadline, your adopted child will not have benefits
- A stepchild - You may put a child of your spouse or domestic partner on your plan
 - You must enroll the child within 60 days of the date of your marriage or domestic partnership with your stepchild's parent
 - The benefits for your stepchild will begin the first day of the month following the date we receive your completed enrollment information

Domestic Partners

If your plan includes coverage for dependents, you can also enroll the following family members on your plan.

- Your domestic partner and their dependent children

How can you extend coverage during a strike, lockout or other labor dispute?

You have a right to extend coverage for you and your dependents even if you are absent from work because of a strike, lockout or other labor dispute if:

- You were covered on the date you stopped working, and
- You paid your **premium** when due

You can continue your coverage for up to 6 months if you pay your **premiums** to your employer. Your employer will send your payment to **Aetna**. Call the number on your ID card to get the process started. Your coverage will continue until:

- You go to work full-time for another employer
- You do not make the required **premium** payments
- The labor dispute ends, or
- The 6 months continuation period ends

Your **premium** payment will be the same rate you were paying on the date you stopped working. But, if the **premium** amount your employer has to pay changes during the time you are extending your coverage, your **premiums** will also change.

When you disagree - claim decisions and appeals procedures

In the previous section, we explained how you and we share responsibility for paying for your **eligible health services**.

When a claim comes in, we decide and tell you how you and we will split the expense. We also explain what you can do if you think we got it wrong.

Claim procedures

For claims involving **out-of-network providers**:

Notice	Requirement	Deadline
Submit a claim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You should notify and request a claim form from us • The claim form will provide instructions on how to complete and where to send the form(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must send us notice and proof as soon as reasonably possible • If you are unable to complete a claim form, you may send us: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A description of services – Bill of charges – Any medical documentation you received from your provider
Proof of loss (claim)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A completed claim form and any additional information required by us 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must send us notice and proof as soon as reasonably possible
Benefit payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written proof must be provided for all benefits • If we challenge any portion of a claim, the unchallenged portion of the claim will be paid promptly after the receipt of proof of loss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits will be paid as soon as the necessary proof to support the claim is received

Types of claims and communicating our claim decisions

You or your **provider** is required to send us a claim in writing. If you or your dependent goes to a **network provider**, the **network provider** will file the claims. When you go to an **out-of-network provider**, you will have to file the claims. You can request a claim form from us. We will review that claim for payment to the **provider** or to you as appropriate.

There are different types of claims. The amount of time that we have to tell you about our decision on a claim depends on the type of claim. The section below will tell you about the different types of claims.

Urgent care claim

An urgent claim is one for which the **health professional** treating you decides a delay in getting medical care could put your life or health at risk. Or a delay might put your ability to regain maximum function at risk. It could also be a situation in which you need care to avoid severe pain.

If you are pregnant, an urgent claim also includes a situation that can cause serious risk to the health of your unborn baby.

Pre-service claim

A pre-service claim is a claim that involves services you have not yet received and which we will pay for only if we precertify them.

Post-service claim

A post service claim is a claim that involves health care services you have already received.

Concurrent care claim extension

A concurrent care claim extension occurs when you ask us to approve more services than we already have approved. Examples are extending a **hospital stay** or adding a number of visits to a **provider**.

Concurrent care claim reduction or termination

A concurrent care claim reduction or termination occurs when we decide to reduce or stop payment for an already approved course of treatment. We will notify you of such a determination. You will have enough time to file an appeal. Your coverage for the service or supply will continue until you receive a final appeal decision from us or an external review organization.

During this continuation period, you are still responsible for your share of the costs, such as **copayments/coinsurance** and **deductibles** that apply to the service or supply. If we uphold our decision at the final internal appeal, you will be responsible for all of the expenses for the service or supply received during the continuation period.

The chart below shows a timetable view of the different types of claims and how much time we have to tell you about our decision.

We may need to tell your **health professional** about our decision on some types of claims, such as a concurrent care claim, or a claim when you are already receiving the health care services or are in the **hospital**.

Type of notice	Urgent care claim	Pre-service claim	Post-service claim	Concurrent care claim
Initial determination (us)	Within 48 hours or Within 1 business day for an emergency request	5 calendar days	30 calendar days	No later than 24 hours for urgent request* or 5 calendar days for non-urgent request
Request for Extension	Not applicable	Within 5 calendar days	15 calendar days	Not applicable
Additional information request (us)	24 hours	5 calendar days	30 calendar days	Not applicable
Response to receipt of additional information request (you)	48 hours	30 calendar days	45 calendar days	Not applicable

*We have to receive the request at least 24 hours before the previously approved health care services end.

Adverse benefit determinations

We pay many claims at the full rate **negotiated charge** if you go to a **network provider** and the **recognized charge** if you go to an **out-of-network provider**, except for your share of the costs.

But sometimes we may pay only some of the claim. And sometimes we may deny payment or service entirely.

We may sometimes:

- Deny
- Change
- Reduce, or
- Terminate your
- Health care services or benefits
- Authorization relating to such services or benefits, or
- Coverage or payment for the health care services or benefits

Such actions are called “adverse benefit determinations.” Other actions that are also called “adverse benefit determinations” include:

- We do not authorize a **stay** in a **hospital** or other facility
- We decide that you or your dependents were not eligible for the coverage when you received the services
- We decide that you have reached your benefit maximums
- Your health care services are excluded, not covered or limited in some way
- We rescind your coverage entirely

Reasons for adverse benefit determinations may be:

- The results of utilization review activities
- The health care services are **experimental or investigational**
- The health care services are not **medically necessary**

If we make an adverse benefit determination, we will tell you in writing.

The difference between a grievance and an appeal

A grievance

You may not be happy about a **provider** or an operational issue, and you may want to complain. You can call the number on your ID card, or write us. Your grievance should include a description of the issue. You should include copies of any records or documents that you think are important. We will review the information and provide you with a written response within 30 calendar days of receiving the grievance. We will let you know if we need more information to make a decision.

An appeal

You can ask us to re-review an adverse benefit determination. This is called an appeal. You can appeal to us by calling the number on your ID card.

Appeals of adverse benefit determinations

You can appeal our adverse benefit determination. We will assign your appeal to someone who was not involved in making the original decision. You must file an appeal within 180 calendar days from the time you receive the notice of an adverse benefit determination.

You can appeal by sending a written appeal to the address on the notice of adverse benefit determination, or by calling the number on your ID card. You need to include:

- Your name
- The policyholder's name
- A copy of the adverse benefit determination
- Your reasons for making the appeal
- Any other information you would like us to consider

Another person may submit an appeal for you, including a **provider**. That person is called an authorized representative. You need to tell us if you choose to have someone else appeal for you (even if it is your **provider**). You should fill out an authorized representative form telling us that you are allowing someone to appeal for you. You can get this form on our website or by calling the number on your ID card. The form will tell you where to send it to us. You can use an authorized representative at any level of appeal.

Urgent care or pre-service claim appeals

If your claim is an urgent claim or a pre-service claim, your **provider** may appeal for you without having to fill out a form.

We will provide you with any new or additional information that we used or that was developed by us to review your claim. We will provide this information at no cost to you before we give you a decision at your last available level of appeal. This decision is called the final adverse benefit determination. You can respond to this information before we tell you what our final decision is.

Timeframes for deciding appeals

The amount of time that we have to tell you about our decision on an appeal claim depends on the type of claim. The chart below shows a timetable view of the different types of claims and how much time we have to tell you about our decision.

Type of notice	Urgent care claim	Pre-service claim	Post-service claim	Concurrent care claim
Appeal determinations at each level (us)	24 hours, but no longer than 72 hours	14 days, or 20 days for an experimental or investigational treatment. We will let you know within 72 hours that we have received your appeal		As appropriate to type of claim
Extension to respond (us)	None	16 additional days, if we notify you and provide a reason. We will get your written permission if we need more time beyond the 16 additional days.		

Exhaustion of appeals process

In most situations you must complete the one level of appeal with us before you can pursue arbitration, litigation or other type of administrative proceeding.

But sometimes you do not have to complete our appeals process before you may take other actions. These situations are:

- You have an urgent claim or a claim that involves ongoing treatment. You can have your claim reviewed internally. See the *How to contact us for help* section for details on how to reach us.
- We did not follow all of the claim determination and appeal requirements of Washington or of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services. You will not be able to proceed directly to external review if the violation was:
 - Minor and not likely to influence a decision or harm you
 - For a good cause or beyond our control
 - Part of an ongoing, good faith exchange between you and us

At any time you may contact the Washington Office of the Insurance Commissioner to request an investigation of a grievance or appeal.

External review

External review is a review done by people in an organization outside of **Aetna**. This is called an external review organization (ERO). Sometimes, this is called an independent review organization (IRO).

You have a right to external review if:

- Our claim decision involved medical judgment
- We decided the service or supply is not **medically necessary** or not appropriate
- We decided the service or supply is **experimental or investigational**
- You have received an adverse determination

The notice of adverse benefit determination or final adverse benefit determination we send you will describe the external review process. It will include a copy of the Request for External Review form at the final adverse determination level.

You must submit the Request for External Review Form:

- To **Aetna**
- Within 180 calendar days of the date you received the decision from us

- And you must include a copy of the notice from us and all other important information that supports your request

You will pay for any information that you send and want reviewed by the ERO. We will pay for information we send to the ERO plus the cost of the review.

Aetna will contact the ERO that will conduct the review of your claim.

The ERO will:

- Assign the appeal to one or more independent clinical reviewers that have the proper expertise to do the review
- Will accept additional written information from you for up to five business days after the ERO accepts its assignment
- Consider appropriate credible information that you sent
- Follow our contractual documents and your plan of benefits
- Send notification of the decision within 30 calendar days of the date we receive your request form and all the necessary information

We will stand by the decision that the ERO makes, unless we can show conflict of interest, bias or fraud.

How long will it take to get an ERO decision?

We will tell you of the ERO decision not more than 30 calendar days after we receive your Notice of External Review Form with all the information you need to send in.

Sometimes you can get a faster external review decision. Your **provider** must call us or send us a Request for External Review Form.

There are two scenarios when you may be able to get a faster external review:

For initial adverse determinations

Your **provider** tells us that a delay in your receiving health care services would:

- Jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function, or
- Be much less effective if not started right away (in the case of **experimental or investigational** treatment)

For final adverse determinations

Your **provider** tells us that a delay in your receiving health care services would:

- Jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function
- Be much less effective if not started right away (in the case of **experimental or investigational** treatment), or
- The final adverse determination concerns an admission, availability of care, continued stay or health care service for which you received **emergency services**, but have not been discharged from a facility

If your situation qualifies for this faster review, you will receive a decision within 72 hours of us getting your request.

Recordkeeping

We will keep the records of all grievances and appeals for at least 10 years.

Fees and expenses

We do not pay any fees or expenses incurred by you when you submit a grievance or appeal.

Out-of-network benefits disclosure

Your health plan's out-of-network benefits

Not all health coverage plans provide out-of-network benefits. Please refer to your schedule of benefits for a description of your health plan's out-of-network benefits.

Notice of consumer rights

Washington State has developed a notice of consumer rights. You can find this in your certificate of coverage.

Out-of-network costs

You may choose a doctor in our network. You may choose to visit an out-of-network doctor. We cover the cost of care based on whether the provider, a doctor or hospital, is "in network" or "out of network." We want to help you understand how much we will pay for your out-of-network care. At the same time, we want to make it clear how much more you will need to pay for this care.

"In network" means we have a contract with that doctor. Doctors agree to how much they will charge you for covered services. That amount is often less than what they would charge you if they were not in our network. Most of the time, it costs you less to use doctors in our network. Doctors also agree to not bill you for any amount over their contract rate. All you have to pay is your coinsurance, copayments, and deductible that applies. Your network doctor will handle any precertification your plan requires.

"Out of network" means we do not have a contract for discounted rates with that doctor. We don't know exactly what an out-of-network doctor will charge you. If you choose a doctor who is out of network, your Aetna® health plan may pay some of that doctor's bill. Most of the time, you will pay more money out of your own pocket if you choose to use an out-of-network doctor.

Your out-of-network doctor or hospital sets the rate to charge you. It may be higher — sometimes much higher — than what your Aetna plan "recognizes" or "allows." Your doctor may bill you for the dollar amount that the plan doesn't recognize. You'll also pay higher copayments, coinsurance and deductibles under your plan. No dollar amount above the "recognized charge" counts toward your deductible or out-of-pocket limits. This means you are fully responsible for paying everything above the amount the plan allows for a service or procedure.

How to use the transparency tool

Aetna provides online tools to help you determine the cost of health care services and your potential share of those expenses. After logging in to our member website, you can search for procedures and providers to see estimated costs.

Search our network for doctors, hospitals and other health care providers

Use our online provider search tool for the most up-to-date list of health care professionals and facilities. You can get a list of available doctors by ZIP code or enter a specific doctor's name in the search field.

Visit **Aetna.com** and log in. From your secure member website home page, select "Find Care" from the menu bar and start your search.

Our online search tool is more than just a list of doctors' names and addresses. It also includes information about:

- Where the doctor went to medical school
- Board certification status
- Language spoken
- Hospital affiliations
- Gender
- Driving directions

Obtain an estimated range of the out-of-pocket costs for an out-of-network benefit

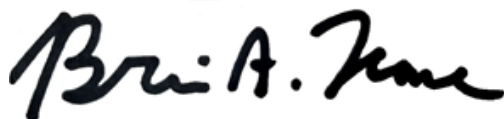
Contact member services at the number on your ID card for help estimating your out-of-pocket cost for an out-of-network benefit. Out-of-network providers do not have a contracted rate with Aetna. We don't know exactly what an out-of-network doctor will charge you. If you choose a doctor who is out of network, your Aetna health plan may pay some of that doctor's bill. However, your out-of-pocket costs may be much higher compared to the costs of using a network provider. Your out-of-pocket costs for an out-of-network benefit, if included in your plan, consists of your out-of-network deductible plus your plan coinsurance. To estimate your coinsurance amount, subtract the remaining plan deductible from the provider's billed charge. Then multiply the balance by your coinsurance percentage.

Policies and plans are insured and/or administered by Aetna Life Insurance Company or its affiliates (Aetna).

Providers are independent contractors and are not agents of Aetna. Provider participation may change without notice. Refer to **Aetna.com** for more information about Aetna® plans.

Estimated costs are not available in all markets. The tool gives you an estimate of what you would owe for a particular service based on your plan at that point in time. Actual costs may differ from the estimate if, for example, claims for other services are processed after you get your estimate but before the claim for this service is submitted, or if the doctor or facility performs a different service at the time of your visit

This amendment makes no other changes to the group policy, booklet-certificate or schedule of benefits.



Brian A. Kane
President
Aetna Life Insurance Company
(A Stock Company)

Amendment: Washington Medical ET
Issue Date: November 27, 2023