



# 2023 Evidence of Coverage Ambetter Core



[AmbetterMeridian.com](https://AmbetterMeridian.com)

# Ambetter from Meridian

Home Office: 1 Campus Martius, Suite 700, Detroit, MI 48226

## Major Medical Expense Policy

In this *policy*, the terms "you", "your", or "yours" will refer to the *member* or any *dependents member* named on the *Schedule of Benefits*. The terms "we," "our," or "us" will refer to Ambetter from Meridian

### AGREEMENT AND CONSIDERATION

This document along with the corresponding *Schedule of Benefits* is your contract and it is a legal document. In consideration of your application and the timely payment of premiums, we will provide benefits to you, the *member*, for *covered services* as outlined in this *policy*. Benefits are subject to *policy* definitions, provisions, limitations, and exclusions.

### GUARANTEED RENEWABLE

Guaranteed renewable means that this contract will renew each year on the anniversary date unless terminated earlier in accordance with *policy* terms. You may keep this *policy* in force by timely payment of the required premiums. However, we may decide not to renew the *policy* as of the renewal date if: (1) we decide not to renew all policies issued on this form, with the same type and level of benefits, to residents of the state where you then live; (2) we withdraw from the *service area*; or (3) there is fraud or an intentional material misrepresentation made by or with the knowledge of a *member* in filing a claim for *policy* benefits.

Annually, we may change the rate table used for this *policy* form. Each premium will be based on the rate table in effect on that premium's due date. The *policy* plan and age of *members*, type and level of benefits, and place of *residence* on the premium due date are some of the factors used in determining your premium rates. We have the right to change premiums, however, all premium rates charged will be guaranteed for a rating period of at least 12 months.

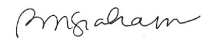
At least 60 days' notice of any plan to take an action or make a change permitted by this clause will be delivered to you at your last address as shown in our records. We will make no change in your premium solely because of claims made under this *policy* or a change in a *member's* health. While this *policy* is in force, we will not restrict coverage already in force. If we discontinue offering and decide not to renew all policies issued on this form, with the same type and level of benefits, for all residents of the state where you reside, we will provide a written notice to you at least 90 days prior to the date that we discontinue coverage.

**This *policy* contains *prior authorization* requirements. You may be required to obtain a referral from a *primary care physician (PCP)* in order to receive care from a *specialist provider*. Benefits may be reduced or not covered if the requirements are not met. Please refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* and the Prior Authorization Section.**

### TEN DAY RIGHT TO RETURN POLICY

Please read your *policy* carefully. If you are not satisfied, return this *policy* to us or to our agent within ten days after you receive it. All premiums paid will be refunded, less claims paid, and the *policy* will be considered null and void from the *effective date*.

Ambetter from Meridian

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. Graham".

Patricia Graham  
CEO and Plan President

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# Introduction

Welcome to Ambetter from Meridian! This *policy* has been prepared by us to help explain your coverage. Please refer to this *policy* whenever you require *medical* services. It describes:

- How to access *medical* care.
- What health services are covered by us.
- What portion of the health care costs you will be required to pay.

This *policy*, the *Schedule of Benefits*, the application, and any amendments and riders attached shall constitute the entire *policy* under which *covered services* and supplies are provided or paid for by us.

This *policy* should be read in its entirety. Since many of the provisions are interrelated, you should read the entire *policy* to get a full understanding of your coverage. Many words used in the *policy* have special meanings: these words are *italicized* and are defined for you in the Definitions section. This *policy* also contains exclusions, so please be sure to read this *policy* carefully.

## How to Contact Us

Ambetter from Meridian  
1 Campus Martius, Suite 700  
Detroit, MI 48226

Normal Business Hours of Operation 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST

Member Services **1-833-993-2426**

TTY line **Relay 711**

Fax **1-833-980-2544**

Emergency **911**

24/7 Nurse Advice Line **1-833-993-2426**

## Interpreter Services

Ambetter from Meridian has a free service to help *members* who speak languages other than English. These services ensure that you and your *physician can* talk about your *medical* or *behavioral health* concerns in a way you both can understand.

Our interpreter services are provided at no cost to you. We have representatives that speak Spanish and *medical* interpreters to assist with other languages. *Members* who are blind or visually impaired and need help with interpretation can call Member Services for an oral interpretation.

To arrange for interpretation services, call Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 or for the hearing impaired (Relay 711).

# Member Rights and Responsibilities

We are committed to:

1. Recognizing and respecting you as a *member*.
2. Encouraging open discussions between you, your *physician*, and *medical practitioners*.
3. Providing information to help you become an informed health care consumer.
4. Providing access to *covered services* and our *network providers*.
5. Sharing our expectations of you as a *member*.
6. Providing coverage regardless of age, ethnicity or race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, physical or mental disability, or expected health or genetic status.

If you have difficulty locating a *PCP*, *specialist*, *hospital* or other contracted *provider* please contact us so that we can assist you with accessing or locating a *network Ambetter provider* who contracts with us. *Physicians* with our *network* may be affiliated with different *hospitals*. Our online directory can provide you with information for the *hospitals* that are contracted with us. The online directory also lists affiliations that your *provider* may have with non-contracted *hospitals*. Your coverage requires you to use contracted *providers* with limited exceptions. You can access the online directory at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com).

You have the right to:

1. Participate with your *physician* and *medical practitioners* in making decisions about your health care. This includes working on any treatment plans and making care decisions. You should know any possible risks, problems related to recovery, and the likelihood of success. You shall not have any treatment without consent freely given by you or your legally authorized representative. You will be informed of your care options.
2. Know who is approving and who is performing the procedures or treatment. All likely treatment and the nature of the problem should be explained clearly.
3. Receive the benefits for which you have coverage.
4. Be treated with respect and dignity.
5. Privacy of your personal health information, consistent with state and federal laws, and our policies.
6. Receive information or make recommendations, including changes, about our organization and services, our *network* of *physicians*, *medical practitioners*, *hospitals*, other facilities and your rights and responsibilities.
7. Candidly discuss with your *physician* and *medical practitioners* appropriate and *medically necessary* care for your condition, including new uses of technology, regardless of cost or benefit coverage. This includes information from your *PCP* about what might be wrong (to the level known), treatment and any known likely results. Your *PCP* can tell you about treatments that may or may not be covered by the *policy*, regardless of the cost. You have a right to know about any costs you will need to pay. This should be told to you in words you can understand. When it is not appropriate to give you information for *medical* reasons, the information can be given to a legally authorized representative. Your *physician* will ask for your *approval* for treatment unless there is an *emergency* and your life and health are in serious danger.
8. Make recommendations regarding *member's* rights, responsibilities, and policies.
9. Voice *complaints* or *grievances* about: our organization, any benefit or coverage decisions we (or our designated administrators) make, your coverage, or care provided.
10. See your *medical* records.

11. Be kept informed of *covered* and *non-covered services*, program changes, how to access services, *PCP* assignment, *providers*, advance directive information, referrals and *authorizations*, benefit denials, *member* rights and responsibilities, and our other rules and guidelines. We will notify you at least 60 days before the *effective date* of the modifications. Such notices shall include:
  - a. Any changes in clinical review criteria; or
  - b. A statement of the effect of such changes on the personal liability of the *member* for the cost of any such changes.
12. A current list of *network providers*.
13. Select a health plan or switch health plans, within the guidelines, without any threats or harassment.
14. Adequate access to qualified *medical practitioners* and treatment or services regardless of age, ethnicity, race, religion, gender, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, or expected health or genetic status.
15. Access *medically necessary* urgent and *emergency services* 24 hours a day and seven days a week.
16. Receive information in a different format in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability.
17. Refuse treatment to the extent the law allows without jeopardizing future treatment, and be informed by your provider(s) of the medical consequences. You are responsible for your actions if treatment is refused or if the *PCP's* instructions are not followed. You should discuss all concerns about treatment with your *PCP*. Your *PCP* can discuss different treatment plans with you, if there is more than one plan that may help you. You will make the final decision.
18. Select your *PCP* within the *network*. You also have the right to change your *PCP* or request information on *network providers* close to your home or work.
19. Know the name and job title of people giving you care. You also have the right to know which *physician* is your *PCP*.
20. An interpreter when you do not speak or understand the language of the area.
21. A second opinion by a *network physician*, if you want more information about your treatment.
22. Make advance directives for healthcare decisions. This includes planning treatment before you need it.
23. Determine what actions should be taken regarding your health if you are no longer able to make decisions for yourself because of *illness* or because you are incapacitated. You have the right to have your wishes known by completing Advance directives forms. Advance Directive forms are forms you can complete to protect your rights for *medical* care. It can help your *PCP* and other *providers* understand your wishes about your health. Advance directives will not take away your right to make your own decisions and will work only when you are unable to speak for yourself. Examples of advance directives include:
  - a. Living Will;
  - b. Health Care Power of Attorney; or
  - c. "Do Not Resuscitate" Orders. *Members* also have the right to refuse to make advance directives. You should not be discriminated against for not having an advance directive.

You have the responsibility to:

1. Read this *policy* in its entirety.
2. Treat all health care professionals and staff with courtesy and respect.
3. Give accurate and complete information about present conditions, past *illnesses*, hospitalizations, medications, and other matters about your health that we or your medical practitioners need in order to provide care. You should make it known whether you clearly understand your care and



what is expected of you. You need to ask questions of your *physician* until you understand the care you are receiving.

4. Review and understand the information you receive about us. You need to know the proper use of *covered services*.
5. Show your *member* identification card and keep scheduled appointments with your *physician*, and call the *physician's* office during office hours whenever possible if you have a delay or cancellation.
6. Know the name of your assigned *PCP*. You should establish a relationship with your *physician*. You may change your *PCP* verbally or in writing by contacting Member Services.
7. Read and understand to the best of your ability all materials concerning your health benefits or ask for help if you need it.
8. Follow the treatment plans and instructions for care that you have agreed on with your health care professionals and *physician*.
9. Tell your health care professional and *physician* if you do not understand your treatment plan or what is expected of you. You should work with your *PCP* to develop treatment goals. If you do not follow the treatment plan, you have the right to be advised of the likely results of your decision.
10. Follow all health benefit plan guidelines, provisions, policies, and procedures.
11. Use any emergency room only when you think you have a *medical* emergency. For all other care, you should call your *PCP*.
12. When you enroll in this coverage, give all information about any other *medical* coverage you have. If, at any time, you get other *medical* coverage besides this coverage, you must tell us.
13. Pay your monthly premiums on time and pay all *deductible amounts, copayment amounts, or coinsurance amount* at the time of service.
14. Inform the entity in which you enrolled for this *policy* if you have any changes to your name, address, or family *members* covered under this *policy* within 60 days from the date of the event. These changes can also be processed by logging in to your consumer dashboard at [www.enroll.ambetterhealth.com](http://www.enroll.ambetterhealth.com).
15. Notify us of any enrollment related changes that would affect your *policy*, within 60 days of the event. Enrollment related changes include the following: birth of a child, or adoption, marriage, divorce, change of address, adding/removing a *dependent member, spouse/domestic partner* becomes eligible under a different insurer, enrollment changes, or incarceration where *member* cost share would need to transfer from one *policy* to another *policy*.

# Important Information

## Provider Directory

A listing of *network providers* is available online at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com). We have *network physicians*, *hospitals*, and other *medical practitioners* who have agreed to provide you with your healthcare services. You may find any of our *network providers* by completing the “Find a Provider” function on our website and selecting the *Ambetter Network*. There you will have the ability to narrow your search by *provider* specialty, zip code, gender, languages spoken and whether or not they are currently accepting new patients. Your search will produce a list of *providers* based on your search criteria and will give you other information such as name, address, phone number, office hours, specialty, and board certifications.

At any time, you can request a copy of the Provider Directory at no charge by calling Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711). In order to obtain benefits, you must designate a *network PCP* for each *member*. We can also help you pick a *PCP*. We can make your choice of *primary care physician* effective on the next business day.

Call the *primary care physician's* office if you want to make an appointment. If you need help, call Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711). We will help you make the appointment.

## Member Identification Card

We will mail you a *member* identification card after our receipt of your completed enrollment materials, which includes receipt of your initial premium payment. This card is proof that you are enrolled in the Ambetter plan. You need to keep this card with you at all times. Please show this card every time you go for any service under the *policy*.

The *member* identification card will show your name, *member* ID#, and *copayment amounts* required at the time of service. If you do not get your identification card within a few weeks after you enroll, please call Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711). We will send you another card. A temporary *member* identification card can be downloaded from [www.ambettermeridian.com](http://www.ambettermeridian.com).

## Website

Our website helps you get the answers to many of your frequently asked questions and has resources and features that make it easy to get quality care. Our website can be accessed at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com). It also gives you information on your benefits and services such as:

1. Finding a *network provider*, including hospitals and pharmacies.
2. Our programs and services, including programs to help you get and stay healthy.
3. A secure portal for you to check the status of your claims, make payments, and obtain a copy of your *member* identification card.
4. Member Rights and Responsibilities.
5. Notice of Privacy Practices.
6. Current events and news.
7. Our *formulary* or preferred drug list.
8. *Deductible* and *copayment* accumulators.
9. Selecting a *PCP*.

If you have material modifications (examples include a change in life event such as marriage, death, or other change in family status), or questions related to your health insurance coverage, contact Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711).

## Quality Improvement

We are committed to providing quality health care for you and your family. Our primary goal is to improve your health and help you with any *illness* or disability. Our program is consistent with National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA) standards and the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) priorities. To help promote safe, reliable, and quality health care, our programs include:

1. Conducting a thorough check on *physicians* when they become part of the *provider network*.
2. Providing programs and educational items about general health care and specific diseases.
3. Sending reminders to *members* to get annual tests such as a physical examination, cervical cancer screening, breast cancer screening, and immunizations.
4. A Quality Improvement Committee which includes *network providers* to help us develop and monitor our program activities.
5. Investigating any *member* concerns regarding care received.

For example, if you have a concern about the care you received from your *network physician* or service provided by us, please contact Member Services.

We believe that getting *member* input can help make the content and quality of our programs better. We conduct a *member* survey each year that asks questions about your experience with the health care and services you are receiving.

# Definitions

In this *policy*, italicized words are defined. Words not italicized will be given their ordinary meaning.

Wherever used in this *policy*:

**Acquired brain injury** means a neurological insult to the brain, which is not hereditary, congenital or degenerative. The injury to the brain has occurred after birth and results in a change in neuronal activity, which results in an impairment of physical functioning, sensory processing, cognition or psychosocial behavior.

**Acute rehabilitation** means *rehabilitation* for patients who will benefit from an intensive, multidisciplinary *rehabilitation* program. Patients normally receive a combination of therapies such as physical, occupational and speech therapy as needed and are medically managed by specially trained *physicians*. *Rehabilitation services* must be performed for three or more hours per day, five to seven days per week, while the *member* is confined as an *inpatient* in a *hospital, rehabilitation facility, or extended care facility*.

**Adverse benefit determination** means (i) Any of the following: A denial, reduction, or termination of, or a failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for, a benefit, including any such denial, reduction, termination, or failure to provide or make payment that is based on a determination of a participant's or beneficiary's eligibility to participate in a plan, and including, with respect to group health plans, a denial, reduction, or termination of, or a failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for, a benefit resulting from the application of any *utilization review*, as well as a failure to cover an item or service for which benefits are otherwise provided because it is determined to be *experimental* or *investigational* or not *medically necessary* or appropriate; and (ii) In the case of a plan providing disability benefits, the term "*adverse benefit determination*" also means any *rescission* of disability coverage with respect to a participant or beneficiary (whether or not, in connection with the *rescission*, there is an adverse effect on any particular benefit at that time). For this purpose, the term "*rescission*" means a cancellation or discontinuance of coverage that has retroactive effect, except to the extent it is attributable to a failure to timely pay required premiums or contributions towards the cost of coverage.

Refer to the Appeal and Grievance Procedures section of this *policy* for information on your right to *appeal* an *adverse benefit determination*.

**Allowed amount** (also see **Eligible expense**) means the maximum amount we will pay a *provider* for a *covered service*. When a *covered service* is received from a *network provider*, the *allowed amount* is the amount the *provider* agreed to accept from us as payment for that particular service. In all cases, the *allowed amount* will be subject to *cost sharing* (e.g., *deductible, coinsurance* and *copayment*) per the *member's* benefits. This amount excludes agreed to amounts made to the *provider* by us as a result of Federal or State Arbitration. Also see Hospital-Based Providers under the Access to Care section.

Please note, if you receive services from a *non-network provider*, you may be responsible for the difference between the amount the *provider* charges for the service (*billed amount*) and the *allowed amount* that we pay. However, you will not be responsible for *balance billing* for unanticipated out-of-*network* care that is otherwise covered under your plan and that is provided by a *non-network provider* at an in-*network* facility, unless you gave informed consent before receiving the service. You also will not be responsible for *balance billing* by a *non-network provider* or *non-network facility* for *emergency services* or air ambulance services. See *Balance Billing* and *Non-Network Provider* definitions for additional information. Also see Hospital-

Based Providers under the Access to Care section. If you are *balance billed* in these situations, please contact Member Services immediately at the number listed on the back of your *member* identification card.

**Ambetter Telehealth** means the preferred vendor who we have contracted with to provide telehealth services to members. Our preferred vendor contracts with providers to render telehealth services to members. These services can be accessed via <https://www.ambettermeridian.com/health-plans/our-benefits/ambetter-telehealth.html>.

**Appeal** means a request to reconsider a decision about the *member's* benefits where either a service or claim has been denied or reduced.

**Applicable Laws** means laws of the state in which your *policy* was issued and/or federal laws.

**Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)** is the design, implementation, and evaluation of environmental modifications by a board-certified behavior analyst using behavioral stimuli and consequences to produce socially significant improvement in human behavior, including the use of direct observation, measurement, and functional analysis of the relationship between environment and behavior.

**Authorization** or **Authorized** means a decision to approve specialty, *medical necessity*, or the appropriateness of care for a *member* by the *member's* PCP or provider. *Authorizations* are not a guarantee of payment.

**Autism spectrum disorder** means a neurological and developmental disorder that begins early in childhood and lasts throughout a person's life. It is a condition related to brain development that impacts how a person perceives and socializes with others, causing problems in social interaction and communication. It may include intellectual impairment but not always. The disorder may include problems with the ability to recognize or share interests or emotional experiences, problems expressing or understanding verbal or non-verbal communication, and/or developing or maintaining relationships. Repetitive patterns of behavior or an inability to tolerate change is often seen.

**Autologous bone marrow transplant** or **ABMT** means a procedure in which the bone marrow infused is derived from the same person who is the transplant recipient and includes peripheral blood stem cell transplants.

**Balance billing** means a *non-network provider* billing you for the difference between the *provider's* charge for a service and the *eligible expense*. *Network providers* may not balance bill you for *covered service expenses* beyond your applicable *cost sharing* amounts. See *Non-Network Provider* definition for additional information. Also see Hospital-Based Providers under the Access to Care section.

If you are ever balance billed, contact Member Services immediately at the number listed on the back of your *member* identification card.

**Behavioral Health** includes both mental health and *substance use disorder*, encompassing a continuum of prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support services

**Bereavement counseling** means counseling of *members* of a deceased person's *immediate family* that is designed to aid them in adjusting to the person's death.

**Billed amount** is the amount a *provider* charges for a service.

**Calendar year** is the period beginning on the initial *effective date* of this *policy* and ending December 31 of that year. For each following year it is the period from January 1 through December 31.

**Care Management** means a program in which a registered nurse or licensed mental health professional, known as a case manager, assists a *member* through a collaborative process that assesses, plans, implements, coordinates, monitors, and evaluates options and health care benefits available to a *member*. Care management is instituted when mutually agreed to by us, the *member* and the *member's* physician.

**Center of Excellence** means a *hospital* that:

1. Specializes in a specific type or types of *medically necessary* transplants or other services such as cancer, bariatric, or infertility; and
2. Has agreed with us or an entity designated by us to meet quality of care criteria on a cost efficient basis. The fact that a *hospital* is a *network provider* does not mean it is a *Center of Excellence*.

**Chiropractic care** means the involvement of neuromuscular treatment in the form of manipulation and adjustment of the tissues of the body, particularly of the spinal column, and may include physical medicine modalities or use of *durable medical equipment*.

**Coinsurance amount** means the percentage of *covered service expenses* that you are required to pay when you receive a *covered service*. *Coinsurance* amounts are listed in the *Schedule of Benefits*. Not all *covered services* have *coinsurance*.

**Complaint** means any expression of dissatisfaction expressed to the insurer by the claimant, or a claimant's authorized representative, about an insurer or its *providers* with whom the insurer has a direct or indirect contract.

**Complications of pregnancy** means:

1. Conditions whose diagnoses are distinct from *pregnancy*, but are adversely affected by *pregnancy* or are caused by *pregnancy* and not, from a *medical* viewpoint, associated with a normal *pregnancy*. This includes: ectopic *pregnancy*, spontaneous abortion, eclampsia, missed abortion, and similar *medical* and *surgical* conditions of comparable severity; but it does not include: false labor, preeclampsia, edema, prolonged labor, *physician* prescribed rest during the period of *pregnancy*, morning sickness, and conditions of comparable severity associated with management of a difficult *pregnancy*, and not constituting a medically classifiable distinct complications of *pregnancy*.
2. An *emergency* cesarean section or a *non-elective cesarean section*.

**Continuing care patient** means an individual who, with respect to a provider or facility, is (i) undergoing a treatment for a *serious and complex condition* from that provider or facility; (ii) is undergoing a course of institutional or *inpatient* care from that provider or facility; (iii) is scheduled to undergo non-elective *surgery* from that provider, including postoperative care; (iv) is pregnant and undergoing a course of treatment for the *pregnancy*; or (v) is determined to be *terminally ill* and is receiving treatment for such *illness*.

**Copayment, Copay, or Copayment amount** means the specific dollar amount that you must pay when you receive *covered services*. *Copayment amounts* are shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*. Not all *covered services* have a *copayment amount*.

**Cosmetic treatment** means treatments, procedures, or services that change or improve appearance without significantly improving physiological function and without regard to any asserted improvement to the psychological consequences or socially avoidant behavior resulting from an *injury, illness, or congenital anomaly*.

**Cost sharing** means the *deductible amount, copayment amount, and coinsurance* that you pay for *covered services*. The *cost sharing* amount that you are required to pay for each type of *covered service* is listed in the *Schedule of Benefits*. When you receive *covered services* from a *non-network provider* in a *network facility*, or when you receive *covered emergency services* or air ambulance services from *non-network providers*, *cost-sharing* may be based on an amount different from the *allowed amount*

**Cost sharing percentage** means the percentage of *covered services* that are payable by us.

**Covered service** or **covered service expenses** means services, supplies, or treatment as described in this *policy* which are performed, prescribed, directed, or *authorized* by a *physician*. To be a *covered service* the service, supply, or treatment must be:

1. Provided or incurred while the *member's* coverage is in force under this *policy*;
2. Covered by a specific benefit provision of this *policy*; and
3. Not excluded anywhere in this *policy*.

**Custodial care** is treatment designed to assist a *covered person* with activities of daily living and which can be provided by a layperson and not necessarily aimed at curing or assisting in recovery from a sickness or bodily *injury*.

*Custodial care* includes (but is not limited to) the following:

1. Personal care such as assistance in walking, getting in and out of bed, dressing, bathing, feeding, and use of toilet;
2. Preparation and administration of special diets;
3. Supervision of the administration of medication by a caregiver;
4. Supervision of self-administration of medication; or
5. Programs and therapies involving or described as, but not limited to, convalescent care, rest care, educational care, or recreational care.

Such treatment is custodial regardless of who orders, prescribes, or provides the treatment.

**Deductible amount** or **Deductible** means the amount that you must pay in a *calendar year* for *covered service expenses* before we will pay benefits. For family coverage, there is a family *deductible amount* which is two times the individual *deductible amount*. Both the individual and the family *deductible amounts* are shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

If you are a covered *member* in a family of two or more *members*, you will satisfy your *deductible amount* when:

1. You satisfy your individual *deductible amount*; or
2. Your family satisfies the family *deductible amount* for the *calendar year*.

If you satisfy your individual *deductible amount*, each of the other *members* of your family are still responsible for the *deductible* until the family *deductible amount* is satisfied for the *calendar year*.

**Dental services** means *surgery* or services provided to diagnose, prevent, or correct any ailments or defects of the teeth and supporting tissue and any related supplies or oral appliances. Expenses for such treatment are considered *dental services* regardless of the reason for the services.

**Dependent member** means the *primary subscriber's* lawful *spouse*, domestic partner or an *eligible child*. Each *dependent member* must either be named in the enrollment application or we must agree in writing to add them as a *dependent member*.

**Drug discount, coupon, copayment card, or manufacturer supplied prepaid credit card** are typically provided by a drug manufacturer. The cards/*coupons* discount the *copay* or your other out of pocket costs (e.g. *deductible* or *maximum out-of-pocket*) to acquire a medication.

**Durable medical equipment** means items that are used to serve a specific diagnostic or therapeutic purpose in the treatment of an *illness* or *injury*, can withstand repeated use, are generally not useful to a person in the absence of *illness* or *injury*, and are appropriate for use in the patient's home.

**Effective date** means the date a *member* becomes covered under this *policy* for *covered services*.

**Eligible child** means the child of a *subscriber*, if that child is less than 26 years of age. As used in this definition, "child" means:

1. A natural child;
2. A legally adopted child;
3. A foster child placed in your custody;
4. A child placed with you for adoption;
5. A child for whom legal guardianship has been awarded to you or your *spouse*; or
6. A stepchild.

It is your responsibility to notify the Member Services if your child ceases to be an *eligible child*. You must reimburse us for any benefits that we provide or pay for a child at a time when the child did not qualify as an *eligible child*.

**Eligible expense** means a *covered service expense* as determined below.

1. For *network providers*: When a *covered service* is received from a *network provider*, the *eligible expense* is the contracted fee with that *provider*.
2. For *non-network providers*, unless otherwise required by Federal or Michigan law, the *eligible expense* is as follows:
  - a. When a covered *emergency service* is received from a *non-network provider*, the *eligible expense* is the negotiated fee, if any, that has been mutually agreed upon by us and the *provider* as payment in full if the *provider* has not agreed to accept a negotiated fee with us as payment in full, the *eligible expense* is the greatest of the following:
    - i. the verifiable median contracted amount paid by all eligible insurers for the same or similar services, calculated by a vendor utilized and chosen by the Michigan Office of the Insurance Commissioner,
    - ii. the most recent verifiable amount agreed to us and the non-network provider who rendered the emergency services for the same service during which time that provider was network with us (if applicable), or
    - iii. a higher amount that we may deem appropriate given the complexity and circumstances of the services provided by the provider.



- iv. When a *covered* air ambulance service is received from a *non-network provider*, the *eligible expense* is the negotiated fee, if any, that has been mutually agreed upon by us and the *provider* as payment in full. If the *provider* has not agreed to accept a negotiated fee with us as payment in full, unless otherwise required by applicable law, the *eligible expense* is reimbursement as determined by us and as required by applicable law. You should not be *balance billed* for the difference between the amount we pay and the provider's charges, but you may be subject to *cost-sharing* obligations. *Member* cost share will be calculated from the recognized amount based upon applicable law.

You cannot be *balance billed* by the *non-network provider*, but you will be required to pay all *cost sharing amounts* for these services. If you are *balance billed* in these situations, please contact Member Services immediately at the number listed on the back of your *member* identification card.

- b. When a covered *emergency service* is received from a *non-network provider* outside of Michigan, the *eligible expense* is the negotiated fee, if any, that has been mutually agreed upon by us and the *provider* as payment in full. If the *provider* has not agreed to accept a negotiated fee with us as payment in full, unless otherwise required by applicable law, the *eligible service* is reimbursement as determined by us and as required by applicable law. *Member* cost share will be calculated from the recognized amount based upon federal law. You should not be *balance billed* for the difference between the amount we pay and the *provider's* charges, but you may be subject to *cost-sharing* obligations. If you are *balance billed* in these situations, please contact Member Services immediately at the number listed on the back of your *member* identification card
- c. When a *covered* air ambulance service is received from a *non-network provider*, the *eligible service* is the negotiated fee, if any, that has been mutually agreed upon by us and the *provider* as payment in full. If the *provider* has not agreed to accept a negotiated fee with us as payment in full, unless otherwise required by applicable law, the *eligible service* is reimbursement as determined by us and as required by applicable law. You will not be *balance billed* for the difference between the amount we pay and the provider's charges, but you may be subject to *cost-sharing* obligations. *Member* cost share will be calculated from the recognized amount based upon applicable law. If you are *balance billed* in these situations, please contact Member Services immediately at the number listed on the back of your *member* identification card.
- d. When a *covered service* is received from a *non-network* professional *provider* who renders non-emergency services at an in-network facility, the *eligible expense* is the negotiated fee, if any, that has been mutually agreed upon by us and the *provider* as payment in full. If the *provider* has not agreed to accept a negotiated fee with us as payment in full, unless otherwise required by applicable law, the *eligible expense* is the *eligible expense* is the greatest of the following:
  - i. the amount that would be paid under Medicare fee-for-service plus 50percent of such value, or
  - ii. the contracted amount paid to *network providers* for the *covered service*. If there is more than one contracted amount with *network providers* for the *covered service*, the amount is the median of these amounts.

Unless you receive and sign the necessary written notice and consent document under state law before the services are provided, you should not be *balance billed* for the difference between the amount we pay and the *provider's* charges, but you may be subject to *cost-sharing* obligations. If you are balance billed in these situations, please contact Member Services immediately at the number listed on the back of your *member* identification card.

- e. For all other *covered services* received from a *non-network provider* for which any needed *authorization* is received from us, the *eligible expense* is the negotiated fee, if any, that has been mutually agreed upon by us and the *provider* as payment in full (you will not be billed for the difference between the negotiated fee and the *provider's* charge). If there is no negotiated fee agreed to by the *provider* with us, the *eligible expense* is the greatest of the following: (1) the amount that would be paid under Medicare; (ii) the amount for the *covered service* calculated using the same method we generally use to determine payments for *non-network* providers; or (3) the contracted amount paid to *network providers* for the *covered service* (if there is more than one contracted amount with *network providers* for the *covered service*, the amount is the median of these amounts). In addition to applicable *cost-sharing*, you may be *balance billed* for these services.

**Emergency services** (*Medical, Behavioral Health, and Substance Use*) means covered *inpatient* and *outpatient services* that are (1) furnished by a *provider* qualified to furnish these services and (2) needed to evaluate or stabilize an *emergency medical /behavioral health* condition. An *emergency medical /behavioral health* condition means a *medical*, mental health, or substance use-related condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate *medical* attention to result in the following:

1. Placing the physical or *behavioral health* of the *member* (or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy;
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions;
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part;
4. Serious harm to self or others due to an alcohol or drug use *emergency*; *Injury* to self or bodily harm to others; or with respect to a pregnant woman having contractions: (1) that there is inadequate time to effect a safe transfer to another *hospital* before delivery, or (2) that transfer may pose a threat to the health or safety of the woman or the unborn child.

**Follow-up care is not considered emergency care.** Benefits are provided for treatment of *emergency medical* conditions and *emergency* screening and stabilization services without *prior authorization*. Benefits for *emergency* care include facility costs and *physician* services, and supplies and *prescription drugs* charged by that facility. You must notify us or verify that your *physician* has notified us of your admission to a *hospital* within 48 hours or as soon as possible within a reasonable period of time. When we are contacted, you will be notified whether the *inpatient* setting is appropriate, and if appropriate, the number of days considered *medically necessary*. By contacting us, you may avoid financial responsibility for any *inpatient* care that is determined to be not *medically necessary* under your *policy*. If your *provider* does not contract with us, you will be financially responsible for any care we determine is not *medically necessary*. Care and treatment provided once you are *medically stabilized* is no longer considered *emergency* care. Continuation of care from a *non-network provider* beyond that needed to evaluate or stabilize your condition in an *emergency* will be covered as a *non-network* service unless we *authorize* the continuation of care and it is *medically necessary*, subject to certain limitations under Michigan law.

Services you receive from a *non-network provider* or *non-network facility* after the point your *emergency medical /behavioral health* condition is *stabilized* continue to meet the definition of *emergency services* until (1) you are discharged from the facility, or (2) both of the following circumstances are met, as well as any

other criteria required by federal or state law: (a) the *provider* or facility determines you are able to travel using nonmedical transportation or nonemergency *medical* transportation, and (b) your *provider* obtains informed consent to provide the additional services.

**Enhanced Direct Enrollment (EDE)** is an Ambetter tool that allows you to apply for coverage, renew and report life changes entirely on our website without being redirected to the Health Insurance Marketplace (Healthcare.gov). If you have utilized enroll.ambetterhealth.com to apply or renew, a consumer dashboard has been created for you. You can log into your consumer dashboard at enroll.ambetterhealth.com.

**Experimental or Investigational** means *medical*, *surgical*, diagnostic, or other health care services, treatments, procedures, technologies, supplies, devices, drug therapies, or medications that, after consultation with a *medical* professional, we determine to be:

1. Under study in an ongoing phase I or II clinical trial as set forth in the United States Food and Drug Administration ("*FDA*") regulation, regardless of whether the trial is subject to United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) oversight.
2. An *unproven service*.
3. Subject to United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval, and:
  - a. It does not have United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval;
  - b. It has United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval only under its Treatment Investigational New Drug regulation or a similar regulation; or
  - c. It has United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval, but is being used for an indication or at a dosage that is not an accepted off-label use. An accepted off-label use of a United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved drug is a use that is determined by us to be:
    - i. Included in authoritative compendia as identified from time to time by the Secretary of Health and Human Services;
    - ii. Safe and effective for the proposed use based on supportive clinical evidence in peer-reviewed *medical* publications; or
    - iii. Not an *unproven service*; or
  - d. It has United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval, but is being used for a use, or to treat a condition, that is not listed on the Premarket Approval issued by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or has not been determined through peer reviewed *medical* literature to treat the *medical* condition of the *member*.
4. *Experimental or investigational* according to the *provider's* research protocols.

Items (3) and (4) above do not apply to phase III or IV United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) clinical trials. Benefits are available for routine care costs that are incurred in the course of a clinical trial if the services provided are otherwise *covered services* under this *policy*.

**Extended care facility** means an institution, or a distinct part of an institution, that:

1. Is licensed as a *hospital*, *extended care facility*, or *rehabilitation facility* by the state in which it operates;
2. Is regularly engaged in providing 24-hour skilled nursing care under the regular supervision of a *physician* and the direct supervision of a registered nurse;
3. Maintains a daily record on each patient;
4. Has an effective *utilization review* plan;
5. Provides each patient with a planned program of observation prescribed by a *physician*; and
6. Provides each patient with active treatment of an *illness* or *injury*, in accordance with existing *generally accepted standards of medical practice* for that condition.

*Extended care facility* does not include a facility primarily for rest, the aged, treatment of *substance use disorder*, *custodial care*, nursing care, or for care of *mental disorders* or the mentally disabled.

**Formulary** means our list of covered drugs available on our website at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com) or by calling Member Services.

1. Generic drug is a drug that is the pharmaceutical equivalent to one or more brand name drugs. Such generic drugs have been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as meeting the same standards of safety, purity, strength and effectiveness as the brand name drug. Generic drugs will be dispensed whenever available.
2. Brand drug is a *prescription drug* that has been patented and is only available through one manufacturer. Preferred Brand drugs will be dispensed if there is not a generic. Brand drugs are also often preferred because they are safer or more successful in producing a desired or intended result.
3. Non-Preferred drug is a *prescription drug* covered under a higher cost share. This tier of drug contains both *formulary* brand name and generic drugs. These drugs require higher *copay* because other alternatives may be available in the lower tiers or there may be other generic equivalents available.
4. Specialty drugs are typically high-cost drugs, including but not limited to the oral, topical, inhaled, inserted or implanted, and injected routes of administration. Included characteristics of Specialty drugs are drugs that are used to treat and diagnose rare or complex diseases, require close clinical monitoring and management, frequently require special handling, and may have limited access or distribution. Specialty drugs are often also drugs that require special handling, or special or enhanced patient administration and oversight.

**Generally accepted standards of medical practice** means standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed *medical* literature generally recognized by the relevant *medical* community, relying primarily on controlled clinical trials.

If no credible scientific evidence is available, then standards based on *physician* specialty society recommendations or professional standards of care may be considered. We reserve the right to consult *medical* professionals in determining whether a health care service, supply, or drug is *medically necessary* and is a *covered service* under the *policy*. The decision to apply *physician* specialty society recommendations, the choice of *medical* professional, and the determination of when to use any such opinion, will be determined by us.

**Grievance** means any dissatisfaction with an insurer offering a health benefit plan or administration of a health benefit plan by the insurer that is expressed in writing in any form to the insurer by, or on behalf of, a claimant including any of the following:

1. Availability, delivery, or quality of health care services.
2. Determination to rescind a *policy*.
3. Determination of a diagnosis or level of service required for evidence-based treatment of *autism spectrum disorders*.
4. Benefits or claims payment, handling, or reimbursement for health care services.

**Habilitation or habilitation services/therapy** means health care services that help a *patient* keep, learn, or improve skills and functioning for daily living. These services may be performed in an inpatient or outpatient setting and include: physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy..

**Health management** means a program designed specially to assist you in managing a specific or chronic health condition.

**Home health aide services** means those services provided by a home health aide employed by a *home health care agency* and supervised by a registered nurse, which are directed toward the personal care of a *member*.

**Home health care** means care or treatment of an *illness* or *injury* at the *member's* home that is:

1. Provided by a *home health care agency*; and
2. Prescribed and supervised by a *physician*.

**Home health care agency** means a public or private agency, or one of its subdivisions, that:

1. Operates pursuant to law as a *home health care agency*;
2. Is regularly engaged in providing *home health care* under the regular supervision of a registered nurse;
3. Maintains a daily *medical* record on each patient; and
4. Provides each patient with a planned program of observation and treatment by a *physician*, in accordance with existing *generally accepted standards of medical practice* for the *injury* or *illness* requiring the *home health care*.

An agency that is approved to provide *home health care* to those receiving Medicare benefits will be deemed to be a *home health care agency*.

**Hospice** means services designed for and provided to *members* who are not expected to live for more than six months, as certified by a *network physician*. We work with certified *hospice* programs licensed by the state to minimize patient discomfort and address the special physical, psychological and social needs of *terminally ill members* and their *immediate family*.

**Hospital** means an institution that:

1. Operates as a *hospital* pursuant to law;
2. Operates primarily for the reception, care, and treatment of sick or injured persons as *inpatients*;
3. Provides 24-hour nursing service by registered nurses on duty or call;
4. Has staff of one or more *physicians* available at all times;
5. Provides organized facilities and equipment for diagnosis and treatment of acute *medical*, *surgical*, or mental conditions either on its premises or in facilities available to it on a prearranged basis; and
6. Is not primarily a long-term care facility; an *extended care facility*, nursing, rest, *custodial care*, or convalescent home; a halfway house, transitional facility, or *residential treatment facility*; a facility for wilderness or outdoor programs; or a similar establishment.

While confined in a separate identifiable *hospital* unit, section, or ward used primarily as a nursing, rest, *custodial care* or convalescent home, *rehabilitation facility*, *extended care facility*, or *residential treatment facility*, halfway house, or transitional facility, or a patient is moved from the emergency room in a short term observation status, a *member* will be deemed not to be confined in a *hospital* for purposes of this *policy*.

**Illness** means a sickness, disease, or disorder of a *member*. All *illnesses* that exist at the same time and that are due to the same or related causes are deemed to be one *illness*. Further, if an *illness* is due to causes that are the same as, or related to, the causes of a prior *illness*, the *illness* will be deemed a continuation or recurrence of the prior *illness* and not a separate *illness*.

**Immediate family** means the parents, *spouse*, domestic partner, *eligible child*, or siblings of any *member*, or any person residing with a *member*.

**Injury** means accidental bodily damage sustained by a *member* and inflicted on the body by an external force. All *injuries* due to the same accident are deemed to be one *injury*.

**Inpatient** means that services, supplies, or treatment for *medical*, *behavioral health*, or *substance use disorder* are received by a person who is an overnight resident patient of a *hospital* or other facility, using and being charged for room and board.

**Intensive care unit** means a unit or area of a *hospital* that meets the required standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals for Special Care Units.

**Loss** means an event for which benefits are payable under this *policy*. A *loss* must occur while the *member* is covered under this *policy*.

**Managed drug limitations** means limits in coverage based upon time period, amount or dose of a drug, or other specified predetermined criteria.

**Maximum out-of-pocket amount** means the sum of the *deductible amount*, *prescription drug deductible amount* (if applicable), *copayment amount*, and *coinsurance percentage of covered expenses*, as shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*. After the *maximum out-of-pocket amount* is met for an individual, Ambetter from Meridian pays 100percent of *eligible expenses* for that individual. The family *maximum out-of-pocket amount* is two times the individual *maximum out-of-pocket amount*. Both the individual and the family *maximum out-of-pocket amounts* are shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

For family coverage, the family *maximum out-of-pocket amount* can be met with the combination of any *members eligible expenses*. A *members maximum out-of-pocket* will not exceed the individual *maximum out-of-pocket amount*.

If you are a covered *member* in a family of two or more *members*, you will satisfy your *maximum out-of-pocket* when:

1. You satisfy your individual *maximum out-of-pocket*; or
2. Your family satisfies the family *maximum out-of-pocket amount* for the *calendar year*.

If you satisfy your individual *maximum out-of-pocket*, you will not pay any more *cost sharing* for the remainder of the *calendar year*, but any other eligible *members* in your family must continue to pay *cost sharing* until the family *maximum out-of-pocket* is met for the *calendar year*.

**Maximum therapeutic benefit** means the point in the course of treatment where no further improvement in a *members medical* condition can be expected, even though there may be fluctuations in levels of pain and function.

**Medical practitioner** includes but is not limited to a *physician*, nurse anesthetist, physician's assistant, physical therapist, or midwife. The following are examples of *providers* that are NOT *medical practitioners*, by definition of the *policy*: acupuncturist, speech therapist, occupational therapist, rolfer, registered nurse, hypnotist, respiratory therapist, X-ray technician, *emergency medical* technician, social worker, family counselor, marriage counselor, child counselor, naturopath, perfusionist, massage therapist or sociologist. With regard to *medical* services provided to a *member*, a *medical practitioner* must be licensed or certified

by the state in which care is rendered and performing services within the scope of that license or certification.

**Medically necessary** means our decision as to whether any *medical* services, items, supplies, or treatment to diagnose and treat a *member's illness or injury*:

1. Is consistent with the symptoms or diagnosis;
2. Is provided according to *generally accepted standards of medical practice*;
3. Is not *custodial care*;
4. Is not solely for the convenience of the *physician* or the *member*;
5. Is not *experimental* or *investigational*;
6. Is provided in the most cost effective care facility or setting;
7. Does not exceed the scope, duration, or intensity of that level of care that is needed to provide safe, adequate, and appropriate diagnosis or treatment; and
8. When specifically applied to a *hospital* confinement, it means that the diagnosis and treatment of your *medical* symptoms or conditions cannot be safely provided as an outpatient.

Charges incurred for treatment not *medically necessary* are not *eligible expenses*.

**Medically stabilized** for non-emergency services means that the person is no longer experiencing further deterioration as a result of a prior *injury* or *illness* and there are no acute changes in physical findings, laboratory results, or radiologic results that necessitate acute *medical* care. Acute *medical* care does not include *acute rehabilitation*. Stabilize, with respect to an emergency medical condition, means to provide *medical* treatment of the condition as necessary to assure, within reasonable *medical* probability, that no material deterioration of the condition is likely to result from or occur during the transfer\* to a *Network Facility* or discharge of the individual from a Facility, (\*See Ambulance Service Benefits provision under the **Major Medical Expense Benefits** section).

**Medicare opt-out practitioner** means a *medical practitioner* who:

1. Has filed an affidavit with the Department of Health and Human Services stating that he or she will not submit any claims to Medicare during a two-year period; and
2. Has been designated by the Secretary of that Department as a *Medicare opt-out practitioner*.

**Member** means an individual covered by the health plan including an enrollee, subscriber, or policyholder. A *member* must either be named in the enrollment application or we must agree in writing to add them as a *dependent member*.

**Mental health disorder** means a condition that causes disturbance in behavior, emotion, or cognition. These disorders can vary in impact, ranging from no impairment to mild, moderate or severe impairment. Depending on the severity, they may be accompanied by significant distress that affects an individual's work, school and social relationships. *Mental health disorder* benefits are defined as benefits for items or services for mental health conditions listed in ICD- 10 Chapter 5 (F), except for subchapter 1 (F01-09) and subchapter 8 (F70-79).

**Minimum essential coverage** means any health insurance plan that meets the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requirement(s) for health insurance coverage. Examples include, job-based plans, Health Insurance Marketplace ("Marketplace") plans, most individual plans sold outside of the Marketplace, Medicare, Medicaid, Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP), TRICARE, COBRA and plans sold through the Small Business Health Insurance Program (SHOP) Marketplace.

**Necessary medical supplies** means *medical supplies* that are:

1. Necessary to the care or treatment of an *injury* or *illness*;
2. Not reusable or *durable medical equipment*; and
3. Not able to be used by others.

*Necessary medical supplies* do not include first aid supplies, cotton balls, rubbing alcohol, or like items routinely found in the home.

**Network** means a group of Providers or Facilities (including, but not limited to *Hospitals*, *Inpatient* mental healthcare facilities, *medical clinics*, *behavioral health* clinics, acupuncturists, chiropractors, massage therapists, nurse practitioners, addiction medicine practitioners, etc.) who have contracts with us, or our contractor or subcontractor, and have agreed to provide health care services to our *Members* for an agreed upon fee. *Members* will receive most if not all of their health care services by accessing the *Network*.

**Network eligible expense** means the *eligible expense* for services or supplies that are provided by a *network provider*. For facility services, this is the *eligible expense* that is provided at and billed by a *network* facility for the services of either a *network* or *non-network provider*. *Network eligible expense* includes benefits for *emergency* health services even if provided by a *non-network provider*.

**Network provider** means any person or entity that has entered into a contract with Ambetter Meridian to provide *covered services* to *members* enrolled under this *policy* including but not limited to, *hospitals*, specialty hospitals, Urgent Care facilities, physicians, pharmacies, laboratories and other health professionals within our *service area*.

**Non-elective cesarean section** means:

1. A cesarean section where vaginal delivery is not a medically viable option; or
2. A repeat cesarean section.

**Non-network provider** means a *medical practitioner*, *provider facility*, or other provider who is NOT identified in the most current list for the *network* shown on your identification card. Services received from a *non-network provider* are not covered, except for:

1. *Emergency services*, as described in the Covered Services section of this *policy*;
2. Non-emergency health care services received at an *in-network* facility, as described in the Access to Care section of this *policy*; or
3. Situations otherwise specifically described in this *policy*.

**Orthotic device** means a *medically necessary* custom fabricated brace or support that is designed as a component of a *prosthetic device*.

**Other plan** means any plan or policy that provides insurance, reimbursement, or service benefits for *hospital*, *surgical*, or *medical* expenses. This includes payment under group or individual insurance policies, automobile no-fault or *medical* pay, homeowner insurance *medical* pay, premises *medical* pay, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organization subscriber contracts, self-insured group plans, prepayment plans, and Medicare when the *member* is enrolled in Medicare. *Other plan* will not include Medicaid.

**Other practitioner** as used in your *Schedule of Benefits* and related to Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder services, refers to a mental health or *substance use disorder* provider licensed/certified by the state in which care is being rendered and performing services within the scope of that license/certification.



**Outpatient services** means both facility, ancillary, facility use, and professional charges when given as an outpatient at a *hospital*, alternative care facility, retail health clinic, or other *provider* as determined by the plan. These facilities may include a non-*hospital* site providing diagnostic and therapy services, *surgery*, or *rehabilitation*, or other *provider facility* as determined by us. Professional charges only include services billed by a *physician* or other professional.

**Outpatient surgical facility** means any facility with a *medical* staff of *physicians* that operates pursuant to law for the purpose of performing *surgical procedures*, and that does not provide accommodations for patients to stay overnight. This does not include facilities such as: acute-care clinics, *urgent care centers*, ambulatory-care clinics, free-standing emergency facilities, and *physician* offices.

**Physician** means a licensed *medical practitioner* who is practicing within the scope of his or her licensed authority in treating a bodily *injury* or *illness* and is required to be covered by state law. A *physician* does **NOT** include someone who is related to a *member* by blood, marriage, or adoption or who is normally a *member* of the *subscriber's* household.

**Policy** means this *policy* issued and delivered to you. It includes the attached pages, the applications, the *Schedule of Benefits* and any amendments or riders.

**Pregnancy** means the physical condition of being pregnant, but does not include *complications of pregnancy*.

**Prescription drug** means any United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)--approved medicinal substance whose label is required to bear the legend "RX only."

**Prescription drug deductible amount** means the amount of *covered expenses*, shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*, if applicable, that must actually be paid during any *calendar year* before any *prescription drug* benefits are payable. The family *prescription drug deductible amount* is two times the individual *prescription drug deductible amount*. For family coverage, once a *member* has met the individual *prescription drug deductible amount*, any remaining family *prescription drug deductible amount* can be met with the combination of any one or more *members' eligible expenses*.

**Prescription order** means the request for each separate drug or medication by a *physician* or each *authorized* refill or such requests.

**Primary care physician (PCP)** means a *physician* who is a family practitioner, general practitioner, internist, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, obstetrician/gynecologist or pediatrician.

**Prior authorization** means a decision to approve specialty or other *medically necessary* care for a *member* by the *member's PCP* or provider group prior to the *member* receiving services.

**Proof of loss** means information required by us to decide if a claim is payable and the amount that is payable. It may include, but is not limited to, claim forms, *medical* bills or records, *other plan* information, payment of claim, and *network* re-pricing information. *Proof of loss* must include a copy of all Explanation of Benefit forms from any other carrier, including Medicare.

**Prosthetic device** means a medically necessary device used to replace, correct, or support a missing portion of the body, to prevent or correct a physical deformity or malfunction, or to support a weak or deformed portion of the body.

**Provider facility** means a *hospital*, *rehabilitation facility*, *extended care facility*, or other healthcare facility.

**Qualified individual** means an individual who has been determined eligible to enroll in a health plan in the individual market.

**Reconstructive surgery** means *surgery* performed on an abnormal body structure caused by congenital defects, developmental abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors, or disease in order to improve function or to improve the patient's appearance, to the extent possible.

**Rehabilitation** means care for restoration (including by education or training) of one's prior ability to function at a level of *maximum therapeutic benefit*. This includes *acute rehabilitation*, sub-acute *rehabilitation*, or intensive day *rehabilitation*, and it includes *rehabilitation therapy* and cardiac *rehabilitation*. An *inpatient* hospitalization will be deemed to be for *rehabilitation* at the time the patient has been *medically stabilized* and begins to receive *rehabilitation therapy* or treatment.

**Rehabilitation facility** means an institution or a separate identifiable *hospital* unit, section, or ward that:

1. Is licensed by the state as a *rehabilitation facility*; and
2. Operates primarily to provide 24-hour primary care or *rehabilitation* of sick or injured persons as *inpatients*.

*Rehabilitation facility* does not include a facility primarily for rest, the aged, long term care, assisted living, *custodial care*, nursing care, or for care of the mentally disabled.

**Rehabilitation licensed practitioner** means, but is not limited to, a *physician*, physical therapist, speech therapist, occupational therapist, or respiratory therapist. A *rehabilitation licensed practitioner* must be licensed or certified by the state in which care is rendered and performing services within the scope of that license or certification.

**Rehabilitation therapy** means therapy to help a person regain abilities that have been lost or impaired as a result of disease, injury or treatment. It is provided to optimize functioning and reduce disability in individuals. Types of rehabilitation therapy include: physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, cardiac therapy and respiratory therapy. It may occur in either an outpatient or inpatient setting.

**Rescission** of a *policy* means a determination by an insurer to withdraw the coverage back to the initial date of coverage.

**Residence** means the physical location where you live. If you live in more than one location, and you file a United States income tax return, the physical address (not a P.O. Box) shown on your United States income tax return as your *residence* will be deemed to be your place of *residence*. If you do not file a United States income tax return, the *residence* where you spend the greatest amount of time will be deemed to be your place of *residence*.

**Residential treatment facility** means a facility that provides (with or without charge) sleeping accommodations, and:

1. Is not a *hospital*, *extended care facility*, or *rehabilitation facility*; or
2. Is a unit whose beds are not licensed at a level equal to or more acute than skilled nursing.

**Respite care** means *home health care* services provided temporarily to a *member* in order to provide relief to the *member's immediate family* or other caregiver.

**Schedule of Benefits** means a summary of the *deductible*, *copayment amount*, *coinsurance*, *maximum out-of-pocket*, and other limits that apply when you receive *covered services* and supplies.

**Self-injectable drugs** means prescription drugs that are delivered into a muscle or under the skin with a syringe and needle. Although medical supervision or instruction may be needed in the beginning, the patient or caregiver can administer self-injectable drugs safely and effectively.

**Serious and complex condition** means, in the case of an acute *illness*, a condition that is serious enough to require specialized *medical* treatment to avoid the reasonable possibility of death or permanent harm; or, in the case of a chronic *illness* or condition, a condition that is life-threatening, degenerative, potentially disabling, or congenital; and requires specialized *medical* care over a prolonged period of time.

**Service area** means a geographical area, made up of counties, where we have been authorized by the State of Michigan to sell and market our health plans. This is where the majority of our *network providers* are located where you will receive all of your health care services and supplies. You can receive precise *service area* boundaries from our website or Member Services.

**Social determinants of health** means the circumstances in which people are born, grow up, live, work and age. This also includes the systems in place to offer health care and services to a community.

**Specialist provider** means a *physician* or *medical practitioner* who focuses on a specific area of medicine or group of patients to diagnose, manage, prevent or treat certain types of symptoms and conditions. Specialists who are hospital-based *providers* may charge a facility fee in addition to any charges for *covered services*. Facility fees, as well as professional fees, are payable by you and subject to applicable *cost sharing* per your benefits.

**Spouse** means your lawful wife or husband.

**Subscriber** means the primary individual who applied for this insurance *policy*.

**Substance abuse** or **substance use disorder** means a disorder that affects a person's brain and behavior, leading to an inability to control his/her use of substances (e.g., alcohol, medications and legal or illegal drugs). Symptoms can range from moderate to severe, with addiction being the most severe form of a *substance use disorder*. *Substance use disorder* benefits are defined as benefits for items or services for *substance use disorder* conditions listed in ICD 10 Chapter 5 (F), except for subchapter 1 (F01-09) and subchapter 8 (F70-79).

**Surgery** or **surgical procedure** means:

1. An invasive diagnostic procedure; or
2. The treatment of a *member's illness* or *injury* by manual or instrumental operations, performed by a *physician* while the *member* is under general or local anesthesia.

**Surrogacy arrangement** means an understanding in which a woman (the *surrogate*) agrees to become and carry a child (or children) for another person (or persons) who intend to raise the child (or children), whether or not the *surrogate* receives payment for acting as a *surrogate*.

**Surrogate** means an individual who, as part of a *surrogacy arrangement*, (a) uses her own egg that is fertilized by a donor or (b) is a gestational carrier who has a fertilized egg placed in her body but the egg is not her own.

**Telehealth services** means the mode of delivering health care services and public health via information and communication technologies to facilitate the diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, *care management* and self-management of a patient's health care while the patient is at the originating site and

the *provider* for *telehealth* is at a distant site. *Telehealth services* included synchronous interactions and asynchronous store and forward transfers.

**Terminal illness counseling** means counseling of the *immediate family* of a *terminally ill* person for the purpose of teaching the *immediate family* to care for and adjust to the *illness* and impending death of the *terminally ill* person.

**Terminally ill** means a *physician* has given a prognosis that a *member* has six months or less to live.

**Third party** means a person or other entity that is or may be obligated or liable to the *member* for payment of any of the *member's* expenses for *illness* or *injury*. The term *third party* includes, but is not limited to, an individual person; a for-profit or non-profit business entity or organization; a government agency or program; and an insurance company. However, the term *third party* will not include any insurance company with a *policy* under which the *member* is entitled to benefits as a named insured person or an insured *dependent member* of a named insured person except in those jurisdictions where statutes or common law does not specifically prohibit our right to recover from these sources.

**Tobacco or nicotine use or use of tobacco or nicotine** means *use of tobacco or nicotine* by individuals who may legally *use nicotine or tobacco* under federal and state law on average four or more times per week and within no longer than the six months immediately preceding the date application for this *policy* was completed by the *member*, including all tobacco and nicotine products, e-cigarettes or vaping devices, but excluding religious and ceremonial *uses of tobacco*.

**Transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS)** means a non-invasive procedure in which a changing magnetic field is used to cause electric current to flow in a small targeted region of the brain via electromagnetic induction.

**Unproven service(s)** means services, including medications that are determined not to be effective for treatment of the *medical* condition, or not to have a beneficial effect on health outcomes, due to insufficient and inadequate clinical evidence from well-conducted randomized controlled trials or well-conducted cohort studies in the prevailing published peer-reviewed *medical* literature.

1. "Well-conducted randomized controlled trials" means that two or more treatments are compared to each other, and the patient is not allowed to choose which treatment is received.
2. "Well-conducted cohort studies" means patients who receive study treatment are compared to a group of patients who receive standard therapy. The comparison group must be nearly identical to the study treatment group.

**Urgent care center** means a facility, not including a *hospital* emergency room or a *physician's* office, that provides treatment or services that are required:

1. To prevent serious deterioration of a *member's* health; and
2. As a result of an unforeseen *illness, injury*, or the onset of acute or severe symptoms.

**Utilization review** means a process used to monitor the use of, or evaluate the clinical necessity, appropriateness, efficacy, or efficiency of, health care services, procedures, products, accommodations, treatment, standards, or settings. Areas of review may include ambulatory review, *prior authorization*, second opinion, certification, concurrent review, *case management*, discharge planning, or retrospective review.

# Dependent Member Coverage

## Dependent Member Eligibility

Your *dependent members* become eligible for coverage on the latter of:

1. The date you became covered under this *policy*;
2. The date of marriage to add a *spouse*;
3. The date of an eligible newborn's birth; or
4. The date that an adopted child is placed with you or your *spouse* for the purposes of adoption or you or your *spouse* assumes total or partial financial support of the child;
5. The date a foster child is placed in your custody; or
6. The date a domestic partnership is established, pursuant to state law.

## Effective Date for Initial Dependent Members

*Dependent members* included in the initial enrollment application for this *policy* will be covered on your *effective date*.

## Coverage for a Newborn Child

An *eligible child* born to you or a covered family member will be covered from the time of birth until the 31st day after its birth, unless we have received notice from you. Each type of *covered service* incurred by the newborn child will be subject to the *cost sharing* amount listed in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

Additional premium will be required to continue coverage beyond the 31st day after the date of birth. The required premium will be calculated from the child's date of birth. If notice of the newborn is given to us within the 31 days from birth, an additional premium for coverage of the newborn child will be charged for not less than 31 days after the birth of the child. If notice is not given within the 31 days from birth, we will charge an additional premium from the date of birth. If notice is given to us within 60 days of the birth of the child, we may not deny coverage of the child due to failure to notify us of the birth of the child or to pre-enroll the child. Coverage of the child will terminate on the 31st day after its birth, unless we have received notice of the child's birth.

## Coverage for an Adopted Child

An *eligible child* legally placed for adoption with you or your *spouse* will be covered from the date of *placement* until the 31st day after *placement*, unless the *placement* is disrupted prior to legal adoption and the child is removed from your or your *spouse's* custody.

The child will be covered for *loss* due to *injury* and *illness* including *medically necessary* care and treatment of conditions existing prior to the date of *placement*.

Additional premium will be required to continue coverage beyond the 31st day following *placement* of the child. The required premium will be calculated from the date of *placement* for adoption. Coverage of the child will terminate on the 31st day following *placement*, unless we have received both: (A) Notification of the addition of the child within 60 days of the birth or placement and (B) any additional premium required for the addition of the child within 90 days of the date of *placement*.

As used in this provision, "*placement*" means the earlier of:

1. The date that you or your *spouse* assume physical custody of the child for the purpose of adoption; or
2. The date of entry of an order granting you or your *spouse* custody of the child for the purpose of adoption.

**Adding Other Dependent Members**

If you apply in writing, or directly at [enroll.ambetterhealth.com](https://enroll.ambetterhealth.com), for coverage on a *dependent member* and you pay the required premiums, we will send you written confirmation of the added *dependent member's effective date* of coverage and *member* identification card.

# Ongoing Eligibility

## For All Members

A *member's* eligibility for coverage under this *policy* will cease on the earlier of:

1. The date that a *member* accepts any direct or indirect contribution or reimbursement, by or on behalf of an employer, for any portion of the premium for coverage under this *policy*;
2. The date a *member's* employer and a *member* treat this *policy* as part of an employer-provided health plan for any purpose, including tax purposes;
3. The *subscriber* residing outside the *service area* or moving permanently outside the *service area* of this *policy*;
4. The date we receive a request from you to terminate this contract, or any later date stated in your request;
5. The date that a *member* has failed to pay premiums or contributions in accordance with the terms of this contract or the date that we have not received timely premium payments in accordance with the terms of this contract;
6. The date the *member* has performed an act or practice that constitutes fraud or made an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact (e.g. the date that a *member* accepts any direct or indirect contributions or reimbursement by or on behalf of an employer, for any portion of the premium for coverage under this contract); or
7. The date of a *member's* death.

If you have material modifications (examples include a change in life event (marriage, death) or family status), or questions related to your health insurance coverage, contact the Member Services Department: 1-833-993-2426 TTY 711.

## For Dependent Members

A *dependent member* will cease to be a *member* at the end of the premium period in which he or she ceases to be your *dependent member* due to divorce or if a child ceases to be an *eligible child*. For *eligible children*, the coverage will terminate the thirty-first day December the year the *dependent member* turns 26 years of age.

A *member* will not cease to be a *dependent eligible child* solely because of age if the *eligible child* is:

1. Not capable of self-sustaining employment due to mental disability or physical disability that began before the age limit was reached; and
2. Mainly dependent on you for support.

## Prior Coverage

If an enrollee is confined as an *inpatient* in a *hospital* on the Effective Date of this agreement, and prior coverage terminating immediately before the Effective Date of this agreement furnishes benefits for the hospitalization after the termination of prior coverage, then services and benefits will not be covered under this agreement for that enrollee until the enrollee is discharged from the *hospital* or benefits under the prior coverage are exhausted, whichever is earlier. "Discharge" means a formal release of an enrollee from an *inpatient hospital* stay when the need for continued care at an *inpatient hospital* has concluded. Transfers from one *inpatient hospital* to another shall not be considered a discharge.

If there is no prior coverage or no continuation of *inpatient* coverage after the Effective Date, your Ambetter coverage will apply for covered benefits related to the *inpatient* coverage after your Effective Date. Ambetter coverage requires you notify Ambetter within 2 days of your Effective Date so we can review and authorize *medically necessary* services. If services are at a *non-network hospital*, claims will be

paid at the Ambetter allowable and you may be billed for any balance of costs above the Ambetter allowable."

### Open Enrollment

There will be an open enrollment period for coverage. The open enrollment period begins November 1, 2022, and extends through January 15, 2023. *Qualified individuals* who enroll on or before December 15, 2022, will have an *effective date* of coverage on January 1, 2023.

### Special and Limited Enrollment

A *qualified individual* has 60 days to report a qualifying event to us and could be granted a 60 day Special Enrollment Period as a result of one of the following events:

1. A *qualified individual* or *dependent member* experiences a loss of *minimum essential coverage*, non-calendar year group or individual health insurance coverage, *pregnancy*-related coverage, access to health care services through coverage provided to a pregnant *member's* unborn child, or medically needed coverage;
2. A *qualified individual* gains a *dependent member* or becomes a *dependent member* through marriage, birth, adoption placement for adoption of a *member* or their *spouse*, placement in foster care or a child support order or other court order;
  - a. In the case of marriage, at least one *spouse* must demonstrate having minimum essential coverage as described in 26 CFR 1.5000A-a(b) for 1 or more days during the 60 days preceding the date of marriage.
3. An individual, who was not previously a citizen, national, or lawfully present individual gains such status;
4. An individual who is no longer incarcerated or whose incarceration is pending the disposition of charges;
5. A *qualified individual's* enrollment or non-enrollment in a health plan is unintentional, inadvertent, or erroneous and is the result of the error, misrepresentation, or inaction of an officer, employee, or its instrumentalities as evaluated and determined by us. In such cases, we may take such action as may be necessary to correct or eliminate the effects of such error, misrepresentation, or inaction;
6. A *subscriber* adequately demonstrates to us that the health plan in which he or she is enrolled substantially violated a material provision of its *policy* in relation to the enrollee's decision to purchase the health plan based on plan benefits, *service area* or premium;
7. An individual is determined newly eligible or newly ineligible for advanced premium tax credits or has a change in eligibility for *cost sharing reductions*, regardless of whether such individual is already enrolled in a health plan;
8. A *qualified individual* or enrollee gains access to new health plans as a result of a permanent move;
9. Qualifying events as defined under section 603 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended;
10. A *qualified individual* or enrollee loses eligibility for premium subsidies on an On-Exchange plan;
11. A *qualified individual* or dependent is a victim of domestic abuse or spousal abandonment and would like to enroll in coverage separate from the perpetrator of the abuse or abandonment;
12. A *qualified individual* or *dependent member* is determined to be potentially eligible for Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), but is subsequently determined to be ineligible after the open enrollment period has ended or more than 60 days after the qualifying event; or
13. A *qualified individual* newly gains access to an employer sponsored Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangement (ICHRA) (as defined in 45 CFR 146.123(b)) or a Qualified Small Employer Health Reimbursement Arrangement.



# Premiums

## Premium Payment

Each premium is to be paid on or before its due date. The initial premium must be paid prior to the coverage *effective date*, although an extension may be provided during the annual open enrollment period.

## Grace Period

Premium payments are due in advance, on a calendar month basis. Monthly payments are due on or before the first day of each month for coverage effective during such month. There is a 60 day grace period. This provision means that if any required premium is not paid on or before the date it is due, it may be paid during the grace period. During the grace period, the *policy* will stay in force; however, claims may pend for *covered services* rendered to the *member* during the grace period. We will notify the *member* of the non-payment of premiums, as well as *providers* of the possibility of denied claims when the *member* is in the grace period.

## Third Party Payment of Premiums or Cost Sharing

We require each policyholder to pay his or her premiums and this is communicated on your monthly billing statements. Ambetter payment policies were developed based on guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recommendations against accepting third party premiums. Consistent with CMS guidance, the following are the only acceptable third parties who may pay Ambetter premiums on your behalf:

1. Ryan White HIV/AIDS program under Title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act;
2. Indian tribes, tribal organizations, or urban Indian organizations;
3. State and Federal government programs;
4. Family members; or
5. An employer for an employee under an Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Account (ICHRA) or Qualified Small Employer Health Reimbursement Account (QSEHRA) plan; or
6. Private, not-for-profit foundations which have no incentive for financial gain, no financial relationship, or affiliation with providers of covered services and supplies on behalf of members, where eligibility is determined based on defined criteria without regard to health status and where payments are made in advance for a coverage period from the effective date of eligibility through the remainder of the calendar year.

Upon discovery that premiums were paid by a person or entity other than those listed above, we will reject the payment and inform the *member* that the payment was not accepted and that the premium remain due.

## Health Savings Account (HSA )

A Health Savings Account (HSA) is a special tax-exempt custodial account or trust owned by a *member* where contributions to the account may be used to pay for current and future qualified medical expenses. Please refer to your *Schedule of Benefits* to see if the plan you are enrolled in has an HSA. For members enrolled in an HSA compatible plan, the following terms apply.

Individual *members* must satisfy federal HSA eligibility criteria in order to open and contribute to an HSA.

This Evidence of Coverage is administered by Ambetter from Meridian. Neither entity is an HSA trustee, HSA custodian or a designated administrator for HSAs. Ambetter from Meridian, its designee and its affiliates, including Ambetter from Meridian, do not provide tax, investment or legal advice to *members*.

**MEMBERS ARE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ADHERING TO ALL FEDERAL REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES CONCERNING HSA MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE AMOUNT, CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUALIFIED WITHDRAWALS. IN**

ADDITION, EACH *MEMBER* WITH AN HSA IS RESPONSIBLE FOR NOTIFYING HIS/HER HSA CUSTODIAN OR TRUSTEE IF ENROLLMENT UNDER THEIR HSA PLAN HAS BEEN CANCELED OR TERMINATED.

THE TERMS OF THIS EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE ARE CONFINED TO THE BENEFITS PROVIDED HEREIN AND DO NOT ENCOMPASS ANY INDIVIDUAL HSA FEE ARRANGEMENTS, ACCOUNT MAINTENANCE OR CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS, APPLICATION PROCEDURES, TERMS, CONDITIONS, WARRANTIES OR LIMITATIONS THERETO, *GRIEVANCES* OR CIVIL DISPUTES WITH ANY HSA CUSTODIAN OR TRUSTEE.

PLEASE CONSULT A PROFESSIONAL TAX ADVISOR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TAX IMPLICATIONS OF An HSA OR HSA PROGRAM.

#### **Misstatement of Age**

If a *member's* age has been misstated, the benefits may be adjusted based on the relationship of the premium paid to the premium that should have been paid, based on the correct age. According to the correct age of the *member*, if the coverage provided by the *policy* would not have become effective, or would have ceased prior to the acceptance of the premium(s), upon request, we will limit the refund to all premiums paid for the period not covered by the *policy*.

#### **Change or Misstatement of Residence**

If you change your *residence*, you must notify *us* of your new *residence* within 60 days of the change. This change can also be processed by logging in to your consumer dashboard at [enroll.ambetterhealth.com](http://enroll.ambetterhealth.com). As a result your premium may change and you may be eligible for a Special Enrollment Period. See the section on Special Enrollment Periods for more information.

#### **Misstatement of Tobacco or Nicotine Use**

The answer to the tobacco or nicotine question on the application is material to our correct underwriting. If a *member's use of tobacco or nicotine* has been misstated on the *member's* application for coverage under this *policy*, we have the right to rerate the *policy* back to the original *effective date*.

#### **Billing/Administrative Fees**

Upon prior written notice, we may impose an administrative fee for credit card payments. This does not obligate us to accept credit card payments. We will charge a \$20 fee for any check or automatic payment deduction that is returned unpaid.

## Prior Authorization

Ambetter from Meridian reviews services to ensure the care you receive is the best way to help improve your health condition. *Utilization review* includes:

1. Pre-service or *prior authorization* review – occurs when a *medical* service has been pre-approved.
2. Concurrent review – occurs when a *medical* service is reviewed as it happens (e.g., *inpatient* stay or *hospital* admission).
3. Retrospective review – occurs after a service has already been provided.

### Prior Authorization Required

Some *medical* and *behavioral health* covered service expenses require *prior authorization*. In general, *network providers* must obtain *authorization* from us prior to providing a service or supply to a *member*. However, there are some *network eligible expenses* for which you must obtain the *prior authorization*.

For services or supplies that require *prior authorization*, as shown on the *Schedule of Benefits*, you must obtain *authorization* from us before you or your *dependent member*:

1. Receive a service or supply from a *non-network provider*;
2. Are admitted into a *network facility* by a *non-network provider*; or
3. Receive a service or supply from a *network provider* to which you or your *dependent member* were referred to by a *non-network provider*.

*Prior authorization* (*medical* and *behavioral health*) requests must be received by phone/eFax/provider portal as follows:

1. At least 5 days prior to an elective admission as an *inpatient* in a *hospital*, *extended care* or *rehabilitation facility*, *hospice facility*, or residential treatment facility.
2. At least 30 days prior to the initial evaluation for organ transplant services.
3. At least 30 days prior to receiving clinical trial services.
4. Within 24 hours of an *Inpatient* admission, including for mental health or *substance use disorder* treatment.
5. At least 5 days prior to the start of *home health care*.

After *prior authorization* has been requested and all required or applicable documentation has been submitted, we will notify you and your *provider* if the request has been *approved* as follows:

1. For urgent concurrent reviews, within 24 hours (1 calendar day) of receipt of the request.
2. For urgent pre-service reviews, within 72 hours (3 calendar days) from date of receipt of request.
3. For non-urgent pre-service reviews, within 15 days of receipt of the request.
4. For post-service or retrospective reviews, within 30 calendar days of receipt of the request.

### How to Obtain Prior Authorization

To obtain *prior authorization* or to confirm that a *network provider* has obtained *prior authorization*, contact us by telephone at the telephone number listed on your *member* identification card before the service or supply is provided to the *member*.

### Failure to Obtain Prior Authorization

Failure to comply with the *prior authorization* requirements will result in benefits being reduced.

*Network providers* cannot bill you for services for which they fail to obtain *prior authorization* as required.

Benefits will not be reduced for failure to comply with *prior authorization* requirements prior to an *emergency*. However, you must contact us as soon as reasonably possible after the *emergency* occurs.

### **Prior Authorization Does Not Guarantee Benefits**

Our *authorization* does not guarantee either payment of benefits or the amount of benefits. Eligibility for, and payment of, benefits are subject to all terms and conditions of the *policy*.

### **Requests for Predeterminations**

You may request a predetermination of coverage. We will provide one if circumstances allow us to do so. However, we are not required to make a predetermination of either coverage or benefits for any particular treatment or *medical* expense. Any predetermination we may make will be reviewed after the *medical* expense is incurred and a claim is filed. A review that shows one or more of the following may cause us to reverse the predetermination:

1. The predetermination was based on incomplete or inaccurate information initially received by us.
2. The *medical* expense has already been paid by someone else.
3. Another party has already paid or is responsible for payment of the *medical* expense.

We will make all benefit determinations after a *loss* in good faith. All benefit determinations are subject to our receipt of proper *proof of loss*.

### **Services from Non-Network Providers**

Except for *emergency medical* services, we do not normally cover services received from *non-network providers*. See the provision Non-Network Liability and Balance Billing under the **Cost Sharing Features** section for more information. If a situation arises where a *covered service* cannot be obtained from a *network provider* located within a reasonable distance, we may provide *prior authorization* for you to obtain services from a *non-network provider* at no greater cost to you than if you went to a *network provider*. If covered services are not available from a *network provider*, you or your *PCP* must request *prior authorization* from us before you may receive services from a *non-network provider*. Otherwise, you will be responsible for all charges incurred.

# Cost Sharing Features

## Cost Sharing Features

We will pay benefits for *covered services* as described in the *Schedule of Benefits* and the Major Medical Expense Benefits sections of this *policy*. All benefits we pay will be subject to all conditions, limitations, and *cost sharing* features of this *policy*. *Cost sharing* means that you participate or share in the cost of your health care services by paying *deductible amounts*, *copayments* and *coinsurance* for some *covered services*. For example, you may need to pay a *deductible*, *copayment* or *coinsurance* amount when you visit your *physician* or are admitted into the *hospital*. The *copayment* or *coinsurance* required for each type of service as well as your *deductible* is listed in your *Schedule of Benefits*.

When you, or a covered *dependent member*, receive health care services from a *provider*, there may be multiple claims for that episode of care. An episode of care means the services provided by a health care facility or *provider* to treat a condition or an *illness*. Each claim that we receive for services covered under this contract are adjudicated or processed as we receive them. Coverage is only provided for *eligible expenses*. Each claim received will be processed separately according to the cost share as outlined in the contract and in your *Schedule of Benefits*.

## Deductible

The *deductible amount* means the amount of *covered service expenses* that must be paid by each/all *members* before any benefits are provided or payable. The *deductible amount* does not include any *copayment amount* or *coinsurance* amount. Not all *covered service expenses* are subject to the *deductible amount*. See your *Schedule of Benefits* for more details.

## Copayments

A *copayment* is typically a fixed dollar amount due at the time of service. *Members* may be required to pay *copayments* to a *provider* each time services are performed that require a *copayment*. *Copayments* are due as shown in the *Schedule of Benefits* are due at the time of service. Payment of a *copayment* does not exclude the possibility of a *provider* billing you for any non-covered service. *Copayments* do not count or apply toward the *deductible amount*, but do apply toward your *maximum out-of-pocket amount*.

## Coinsurance Percentage

A *coinsurance* amount is your share of the cost of a service. *Members* may be required to pay a *coinsurance* in addition to any applicable *deductible amount(s)* due for a *covered service* or supply. *Coinsurance* amounts do not apply toward the *deductible* but do apply toward your *out-of-pocket amount*. When the annual maximum out-of-pocket amount has been met, additional covered service expenses will be provided at 100%.

## Maximum Out-of-Pocket

You must pay any required *copayment* or *coinsurance* amounts required until you reach the *maximum out-of-pocket amount* shown on your *Schedule of Benefits*. After the *maximum out-of-pocket amount* is met for an individual, we will pay 100percent of the cost for *covered services*. The family *maximum out-of-pocket amount* is two times the individual *maximum out-of-pocket amount*. For the family *maximum out-of-pocket amount*, once a *member* has met the individual *maximum out-of-pocket amount*, the remainder of the family *maximum out-of-pocket amount* can be met with the combination of any one or more *members' eligible expenses*.

When the annual out-of-pocket maximum has been met, additional covered service expenses will be provided or payable at 100% of the allowable expense.

**Refer to your Schedule of Benefits for Coinsurance Percentage and other limitations.**

The amount provided or payable will be subject to:

1. Any specific benefit limits stated in the *policy*;
2. A determination of *eligible expenses*; and
3. Any reduction for expenses incurred at a non-network provider. Please refer to the information on the *schedule of Benefits*.

The applicable *deductible amount(s)*, *coinsurance*, *cost sharing percentage*, and *copayment amounts* are shown on the *Schedule of Benefits*.

# Access to Care

## Primary Care Physician (PCP)

In order to obtain benefits, you must designate a *network PCP* for each *member*. If you do not select a *network PCP* for each *member*, one will be assigned. You may select any *network PCP* who is accepting new patients from any of the following *provider* types:

1. Family practitioners
2. General practitioners
3. Internal medicine
4. Nurse practitioners\*
5. Physician assistants
6. Obstetricians/gynecologists
7. Pediatricians (for children)

\*If you choose a nurse practitioner as your *PCP*, your benefit coverage and *copayment amounts* are the same as they would be for services from other in-*network providers*. See your *Summary of Benefits* for more information.

You may obtain a list of *network PCPs* at our website by using the “Find a Provider” function or by contacting Member Services. You should get to know your *PCP* and establish a healthy relationship with them. Your *PCP* will:

1. Provide preventive care and screenings
2. Conduct regular physical exams as needed
3. Conduct regular immunizations as needed
4. Deliver timely service
5. Work with other doctors when you receive care somewhere else
6. Coordinate specialty care with our in-*network specialists*
7. Provide any ongoing care you need
8. Update your *medical* record, which includes keeping track of all the care that you get from all of your *providers*
9. Treat all patients the same way with dignity and respect
10. Make sure you can contact him/her or another *provider* at all times
11. Discuss what advance directives are and file directives appropriately in your *medical* record.

Your *network PCP* will be responsible for coordinating all covered health services and making referrals for services from other *network providers*. You may be required to obtain a referral from a *PCP* in order to receive care from a *specialist provider*. You do not need a referral from your *network PCP* for mental or *behavioral health* services, obstetrical or gynecological treatment and may seek care directly from a *network obstetrician* or *gynecologist*.

## Contacting Your Primary Care Physician (PCP)

To make an appointment with your *PCP*, call his/her office during business hours and set up a date and time. If you need help, call Member Services at 1-877-617-0390 and we will help you make the appointment. If you need to cancel or change your appointment, call 24 hours in advance. At every appointment, make sure you bring your *member* identification card and a photo identification.

Should you need care outside of your *PCP's* office hours, you should call your *PCP's* office for information on receiving after hours care in your area. If you have an urgent *medical* problem or question or cannot reach your *PCP* during normal office hours, call our 24/7 nurse advice line at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711). A licensed nurse is always available and ready to answer your health questions. In an *emergency*, call 911 or head straight to the nearest *emergency* room.

## Changing Your Primary Care Physician (PCP)

You may change your *network PCP* for any reason, but not more frequently than once a month, by submitting a written request, online at our website at [ambettermeridian.com](https://ambettermeridian.com), or by contacting our office at the number shown on your identification card. The change to your *network PCP* of record will be effective no later than 30 days from the date we receive your request.

## Non-Emergency Services

If you are traveling outside of the Ambetter from Meridian *service area* you may be able to access *providers* in another state if there is an Ambetter plan located in that state. You can locate Ambetter *providers* outside of Michigan by searching the relevant state in our Provider Directory at <https://guide.ambetterhealth.com>. Not all states have Ambetter plans. If you receive care from an Ambetter *provider* outside of the *service area*, you may be required to receive *prior authorization* for non-emergency services. Contact Member Services at the phone number on your *member* identification card for further information.

## Emergency Services Outside of Service Area

We cover *emergency* care services when you are outside of our *service area*.

If you are temporarily out of the *service area* and have a *medical* or *behavioral health* emergency, call 911 or go the nearest *emergency* room. Be sure to call us and report your *emergency* within one business day. You do not need prior approval for *emergency* care services.

## New Technology

Health technology is always changing. If we think a new *medical* advancement can benefit our *members*, we evaluate it for coverage. These advancements include:

- New technology
- New *medical* procedures
- New drugs
- New devices
- New application of existing technology

Sometimes, our *medical* director and/or *medical* management staff will identify technological advances that could benefit our *members*. The Clinical Policy Committee (CPC) reviews requests for coverage and decides whether we should change any of our benefits to include the new technology.

If the CPC does not review a request for coverage of new technology, our *medical* director will review the request and make a one-time determination. The CPC may then review the new technology request at a future meeting.

## Preferred Partnership

As innovative technologies and solutions are established in market under expedited research and development, we may elect to offer, at our discretion, new services or preferred partnerships designed to improve access to care and enhance *care management*. Ambetter will provide access to *third party* services at preferred or discounted rate. The preferred or discounted rates to these services may be communicated to all *members* by email, mail or phone promotions. The preferred partnerships are optional benefits to all *members*.



## Network Availability

Your *network* is subject to change upon advance written notice. A *network service area* may not be available in all areas. If you move to an area where we are not offering access to a *network*, please contact Member Services prior to moving. Note that services from *non-network providers* are not *covered services* under this agreement but you may have the opportunity to disenroll from coverage under this *policy* and enroll in a different health plan with a *network* in that area. If you receive *non-emergency services* from *non-network providers*, benefits will be calculated in accordance with the terms of this *policy* for *non-network providers*.

## Sufficiency of Network

We are required to meet *network* adequacy standards to ensure there are enough *providers* in our *network* to offer you *covered services*. If we do not meet these *network* adequacy standards as determined by the Department of Insurance and Financial Services, and you receive *covered services* from a *non-network provider* as a result, you will not be responsible for a greater cost than if the *covered services* were obtained by a *network provider*.

If we do meet *network* adequacy standards, all *non-network* services must be *authorized*. You may be responsible for charges if you do not receive *authorization* for *non-network* services when *network providers* are available.

## Continuity of Care

Under the No Surprises Act, if a *member* is receiving a *covered service* with respect to a *network provider* or *facility* and:

- (1) the contractual relationship with the *provider* or *facility* is terminated, such that the *provider* or *facility* is no longer in *network*; or
- (2) benefits are terminated because of a change in the terms of the participation of the *provider* or *facility*, as it pertains to the benefit the *member* is receiving, then we will:
  1. notify each enrollee who is a *continuing care patient* on a timely basis of the termination and their right to elect continued transitional care from the provider or facility;
  2. provide the individual with an opportunity to notify the health plan of the individual's need for transitional care; and
  3. permit the individual to elect to continue to have their benefits for the course of treatment relating to the individual's status as a *continuing care patient* during the period beginning on the date on which the above notice is provided and ending on the earlier of
    - a. the 90-day period beginning on such date; or
    - b. the date on which such individual is no longer a *continuing care patient* with respect to their provider or facility.

## Coverage Under Other Policy Provisions

Charges for services and supplies that qualify as *covered service expenses* under one benefit provision will not qualify as *covered service expenses* under any other benefit provision of this *policy*.

## Hospital-Based Providers

When receiving care at an Ambetter *network hospital* it is possible that some *hospital-based providers* (for example, assistant surgeons, hospitalists, and intensivists) may not be under contract with Ambetter as *network providers*. If appropriate notice is provided to and acknowledged by you before rendering services, you may be responsible for payment of all or part of the fees for those professional services that are not paid or covered by Ambetter – this is known as “*balance billing*”. We encourage you to inquire about the *providers* who will be treating you before you begin your treatment, so you can understand their participation status with Ambetter. Any amount you are obligated to pay to the *non-network provider* in excess of the *eligible expense* will not apply to your *deductible amount* or *maximum out-of-pocket*.

You may not be balance billed for non-emergency ancillary services (emergency medicine, anesthesiology, pathology, radiology, and neonatology, as well as diagnostic services (including radiology and laboratory services)) received from a *non-network provider* at a *network hospital* or *network ambulatory facility*.

### **Protection from Balance Billing**

Under Federal law, effective January 1, 2022, *non-network providers* or facilities are prohibited from balance billing health plan members for:

1. *Emergency services* provided to a *member*, regardless of plan participation; or
2. *Non-emergency* health care services provided to a *member* at a *network hospital* or at a *network health care facility* if the *member* did not give informed consent or *prior authorization* to be seen by the *non-network provider* pursuant to the federal No Surprises Act.

# Major Medical Expense Benefits

The plan provides coverage for health care services for a *member* or covered *dependent members* when ordered or provided by your *PCP*. Some services require *prior authorization*. *Copayment*, *deductibles*, and *coinsurance amounts* must be paid to your *network provider* at the time you receive services. All *covered services* are subject to conditions, exclusions, limitations, terms and provision of this *policy*. *Covered services* must be *medically necessary* and not *experimental* or *investigational*.

Limitations may also apply to some *covered services* that fall under more than one *covered service* category. Please review all limits carefully. Ambetter from Meridian will not pay benefits for any of the services, treatments, items or supplies that exceed benefit limits.

Essential health benefits are defined by federal and state law and refer to benefits in at least the following categories: ambulatory patient services, *emergency* services, hospitalization, maternity and newborn care, mental health and *substance use disorder* services, including *behavioral health* treatment, prescription drugs, rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, laboratory services, preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management and pediatric services, including oral and vision care. Essential health benefits provided within this *policy* are not subject to lifetime or annual dollar maximums. Certain non-essential health benefits, however, are subject to either a lifetime or annual dollar maximum.

## Acquired Brain Injury Services

Benefits for *eligible expenses* incurred for *medically necessary* treatment of an *Acquired Brain Injury* will be determined on the same basis as treatment for any other physical condition. Cognitive *rehabilitation therapy*, cognitive communication therapy, neurocognitive therapy and *rehabilitation*; neurobehavioral, neuropsychological, neurophysiological and psychophysiological testing and treatment; neurofeedback therapy, remediation required for and related to treatment of an *Acquired Brain Injury*, post-acute transition services and community reintegration services, including outpatient day treatment services, or any other post-acute treatment services are covered, if such services are necessary as a result of and related to an *Acquired Brain Injury*.

Treatment for an *Acquired Brain Injury* may be provided at a *hospital*, an acute or post-acute *rehabilitation hospital*, an assisted living facility or any other facility at which appropriate services or therapies may be provided. Service means the work of testing, treatment, and providing therapies to an individual with an *Acquired Brain Injury*. Therapy means the scheduled remedial treatment provided through direct interaction with the individual to improve a pathological condition resulting from an *Acquired Brain Injury*.

To ensure that appropriate post-acute care treatment is provided, this plan includes coverage for reasonable expenses related to periodic reevaluation of the care of an individual covered who:

- a. Has incurred an *Acquired Brain Injury*;
- b. Has been unresponsive to treatment; and
- c. Becomes responsive to treatment at a later date.

Treatment goals for services may include the maintenance of functioning or the prevention of or slowing of further deterioration.

## Ambulance Service Benefits (Ground)

*Covered service expenses* will include ambulance services for ground and water transportation, transportation from home, scene of accident, or medical *emergency*:

1. To the nearest *hospital* that can provide services appropriate to the *member's illness* or *injury* in cases of *emergency*.
2. To the nearest neonatal special care unit for newborn infants for treatment of *illnesses, injuries, congenital birth defects*, or complications of premature birth that require that level of care.
3. Transportation between *hospitals* or between a *hospital* and a skilled nursing or *rehabilitation facility* when *authorized* by us.
4. When ordered by an employer, school, fire or public safety official and the *member* is not in a position to refuse.
5. When a *member* is required by us to move from a *non-network provider* to a *network provider*.

*Prior authorization* is not required for emergency ambulance transportation. Note: non-emergency ambulance transportation requires *prior authorization*. Unless otherwise required by Federal or Michigan law, if you receive services from non-*network* ambulance providers, you may be responsible for costs above the *allowed amount*.

### Exclusions

No benefits will be paid for:

1. Expenses incurred for ambulance services covered by a local governmental or municipal body, unless otherwise required by law.
2. Non-*emergency* transportation.
3. Ambulance services provided for a *member's* comfort or convenience.
4. Non-*emergency* transportation excluding ambulances (for example, transport-van, taxi).

## Air Ambulance Service Benefits

*Covered service expenses* will include ambulance services for transportation by fixed wing and rotary wing air ambulance from home, scene of accident, or *medical emergency*:

1. To the nearest *hospital* that can provide services appropriate to the *member's illness* or *injury*, in cases of *emergency*.
2. To the nearest neonatal special care unit for newborn infants for treatment of *illnesses, injuries, congenital birth defects*, or complications of premature birth that require that level of care.
3. Transportation between *hospitals* or between a *hospital* and a skilled nursing, *rehabilitation facility* and *member's* home when *authorized* by Ambetter from Meridian.
4. When ordered by an employer, school, fire or public safety official and the *member* is not in a position to refuse; or

*Prior authorization* is not required for emergency ambulance transportation. Please Note: You should not be balance billed for services from a *non-network* ambulance provider, beyond your cost share, for air ambulance services.

Limitations: Benefits for air ambulance services are limited to:

1. Services requested by police or *medical* authorities at the site of an *emergency*.
2. Those situations in which the *member* is in a location that cannot be reached by ground ambulance.

Note: Non-emergency ambulance transportation requires *prior authorization*.

## Exclusions

No benefits will be paid for:

1. Expenses incurred for ambulance services covered by a local governmental or municipal body, unless otherwise required by law.
2. Non-emergency air *medical* transportation.
3. Air *medical* transportation:
  - a. Outside of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia;
  - b. From a country or territory outside of the United States to a location within the 50 United States or the District of Columbia; or
  - c. From a location within the 50 United States or the District of Columbia to a country or territory outside of the United States.
4. Air ambulance services provided for a *member's* comfort or convenience.
5. Non-emergency transportation excluding ambulances.

## Autism Spectrum Disorder Benefits

Generally recognized services prescribed in relation to *autism spectrum disorder* by a *physician* or *behavioral health* practitioner in a treatment plan recommended by that *physician* or *behavioral health* practitioner.

For purposes of this section, generally recognized services may include services such as:

- evaluation and assessment services;
- *applied behavior analysis* therapy;
- behavior training and behavior management;
- speech therapy;
- occupational therapy;
- physical therapy;
- *Behavioral Health* Services such as counseling services provided by a licensed psychiatrist, licensed psychologist, professional counselor or clinical social worker; or
- medications or nutritional supplements used to address symptoms of *autism spectrum disorder*;

No limitation exists within the benefits for autism services. These services are subject to *prior authorization* to determine *medical* necessity. If multiple services are provided on the same day by different *providers*, a separate *copayment* and/or *coinsurance* will apply to each *provider*.

## Clinical Trial Coverage

Clinical Trial Coverage includes routine patient care costs incurred as the result of an approved phase I, II, III, or phase IV clinical trial and the clinical trial is undertaken for the purposes of prevention, early detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening disease or condition. Coverage will include routine patient care costs incurred for (1) drugs and devices that have been approved for sale by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), regardless of whether approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in treating the patient's particular condition, (2) reasonable and *medically necessary* services needed to administer the drug or use the device under evaluation in the clinical trial and (3) all items and services that are otherwise generally available to a *qualified individual* that are provided in the clinical trial except:

- The *investigational* item or service itself;
- Items and services provided solely to satisfy data collection and analysis needs and that are not used in the direct clinical management of the patient; and
- Items and services customarily provided by the research sponsors free of charge for any *member* in the trial.

Phase I and II clinical trials must meet the following requirements:

- Phase I and II of a clinical trial is sanctioned by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) or National Cancer Institute (NCI) and conducted at academic or National Cancer Institute Center; and
- The insured is enrolled in the clinical trial. This section shall not apply to insured's who are only following the protocol of phase I or II of a clinical trial, but not actually enrolled.

Phase III and IV clinical trials must be approved or funded by one of the following entities:

- One of the National Institutes of Health (NIH);
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality;
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services;
- An NIH Cooperative Group or Center;
- The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the form of an *investigational* new drug application;
- The federal Departments of Veterans' Affairs, Defense, or Energy;
- An institutional review board in this state that has an appropriate assurance approved by the Department of Health and Human Services assuring compliance with and implementation of regulations for the protection of human subjects; or
- A qualified non-governmental research entity that meets the criteria for NIH Center support grant eligibility.

In a clinical trial, the treating facility and personnel must have the expertise and training to provide the treatment and treat a sufficient volume of patients. There must be equal to or superior, *non-investigational treatment* alternatives and the available clinical or preclinical data must provide a reasonable expectation that the treatment will be superior to the non-investigational alternatives.

*Providers* participating in clinical trials shall obtain a patient's informed consent for participation in the clinical trial in a manner that is consistent with current legal and ethical standards.

## Colorectal Cancer Examinations and Laboratory Tests

*Covered services* include "colorectal cancer tests" for any non-symptomatic *member*, in accordance with the current American Cancer Society guidelines. *Covered service* include tests for *members*, starting at age 45 (**note:** screening should start before age 45 for high risk individuals)..

Benefits for *covered expenses* for preventive care expense and chronic disease management benefits may include the use of reasonable *medical* management techniques authorized by federal law to promote the use of high value preventive services from *network providers*. Reasonable *medical* management techniques may result in the application of *deductible amounts*, *coinsurance* provisions, or *copayment amounts* to services when a *member* chooses not to use a high value service that is otherwise exempt from *deductible amounts*, *coinsurance* provisions, and *copayment amounts*, when received from a *network provider*.

As new recommendations and guidelines are issued, those services will be considered *covered service expenses* when required by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, but not earlier than one year after the recommendation or guideline is issued.

## Diabetic Care

Benefits are available for *medically necessary* services and supplies used in the treatment of persons with gestational, type I or type II diabetes. *Covered service expenses* include, but are not limited to, exams including podiatric exams; routine foot care such as trimming of nails and corns; laboratory and radiological diagnostic testing; self-management equipment, and supplies such as urine or ketone strips,

blood glucose monitor supplies (glucose strips) for the device, and syringes or needles; orthotics and diabetic shoes; urinary protein/microalbumin and lipid profiles; educational health and nutritional counseling for self-management, eye examinations, prescription medication; and one retinopathy examination screening per year.

Benefits are available for *medically necessary* items of diabetic supplies and blood glucose monitors (including non-invasive monitors and monitors for the blind) for which a *medical practitioner* has written an order.

## Dialysis Services

*Medically necessary* acute and chronic dialysis services are *covered services* unless other coverage is primary, such as Medicare for dialysis. There are two types of treatment provided you meet all the criteria for treatment. You may receive hemodialysis in an *in-network* dialysis facility or peritoneal dialysis in your home from a *network provider* when you qualify for home dialysis.

Covered expenses include:

1. Services provided in an outpatient dialysis facility or when services are provided in the home;
2. Processing and administration of blood or blood components;
3. Dialysis services provided in a hospital;
4. Dialysis treatment of an acute or chronic kidney ailment which may include the supportive use of an artificial kidney machine.

After you receive appropriate training at a dialysis facility we designate, we also cover equipment and *medical* supplies required for home hemodialysis and home peritoneal dialysis. Coverage is limited to the standard item of equipment or supplies that adequately meets your *medical* needs. We will determine if equipment is made available on a rental or purchase basis. At our option, we may authorize the purchase of the equipment in lieu of its rental if the rental price is projected to exceed the equipment purchase price but only from a *provider* we authorize before the purchase.

## Disposable Medical Equipment and Supplies

Disposable medical supplies, which have a primary medical purpose, are covered and are subject to reasonable quantity limits as determined by us. Examples include, but are not limited to: bandages & wraps, gloves, suction catheters, surgical sponges, hypodermic needles, syringes, and applicators. The supplies are subject to the member's medical deductible, copay, and coinsurance.

## Durable Medical Equipment, Medical and Surgical Supplies, Orthotic Devices and Prosthetics

The supplies, equipment, and appliances described below are *covered services* under this benefit. If the supplies, equipment, and appliances include comfort, luxury, or convenience items or features which exceed what is *medically necessary* in your situation or needed to treat your condition, reimbursement will be based on the maximum allowable amount for a standard item that is a *covered service*, serves the same purpose, and is *medically necessary*. Any expense that exceeds the maximum allowable amount for the standard item which is a *covered service* is your responsibility. For example, the reimbursement for a motorized wheelchair will be limited to the reimbursement for a standard wheelchair, when a standard wheelchair adequately accommodates your condition. Repair, adjustment, and replacement of purchased equipment, supplies, or appliances as set forth below may be covered, as *approved* by us. The repair, adjustment, or replacement of the purchased equipment, supply, or appliance is covered if:

- The equipment, supply, or appliance is a *covered service*;

- The continued use of the item is *medically necessary*; and
- There is reasonable justification for the repair, adjustment, or replacement (warranty expiration is not reasonable justification).

In addition, replacement of purchased equipment, supplies, or appliance may be covered if:

1. The equipment, supply, or appliance is worn out or no longer functions.
2. Repair is not possible or would equal or exceed the cost of replacement. An assessment by our *habilitation* equipment specialist or vendor should be done to estimate the cost of repair.
3. Individual's needs have changed and the current equipment is no longer usable due to weight gain, rapid growth, or deterioration of function, etc.
4. The equipment, supply, or appliance is damaged and cannot be repaired.

Benefits for repairs and replacement do not include the following:

- Repair and replacement due to misuse, malicious breakage, or gross neglect.
- Replacement of lost or stolen items.

We may establish reasonable quantity limits for certain supplies, equipment, or appliance described below.

#### Durable Medical Equipment

The rental (or, at our option, the purchase) of *durable medical equipment* prescribed by a *physician* or other *provider*. *Durable medical equipment* is equipment which can withstand repeated use; i.e. could normally be rented, and used by successive patients; is primarily and customarily used to serve a *medical* purpose; is not useful to a person in the absence of *illness* or *injury*; and is appropriate for use in a patient's home. Examples include, but are not limited to, wheelchairs, crutches, *hospital* beds, and oxygen equipment. Rental cost must not be more than the purchase price. We will not pay for rental for a longer period of time than it would cost to purchase equipment. The cost for delivering and installing the equipment are *covered services*. Payment for related supplies is a *covered service* only when the equipment is a rental, and medically fitting supplies are included in the rental; or the equipment is owned by the *member*; medically fitting supplies may be paid separately. Equipment should be purchased when it costs more to rent it than to buy it. Repair of *medical* equipment is covered.

*Covered services* and supplies may include, but are not limited to:

1. Hemodialysis equipment.
2. Crutches and replacement of pads and tips.
3. Pressure machines.
4. Infusion pump for IV fluids and medicine.
5. Glucometer.
6. Tracheotomy tube.
7. Cardiac, neonatal, and sleep apnea monitors.
8. Augmentive communication devices are covered when we *approve* based on the *member's* condition.

#### Exclusions

Non-covered items may include, but are not limited to:

1. Air conditioners.
2. Ice bags/cold pack pump.
3. Raised toilet seats.
4. Rental of equipment if the *member* is in a facility that is expected to provide such equipment.
5. Translift chairs.



6. Treadmill exerciser.
7. Tub chair used in shower.
8. Vehicle installations or modifications which may include, but are not limited to: adapted seat devices, door handle replacements, lifting devices, roof extensions and wheelchair securing devices.

See your *Schedule of Benefits* for benefit levels or additional limits.

#### Medical and surgical supplies

Coverage for non-durable *medical* supplies and equipment for management of disease and treatment of *medical* and *surgical* conditions.

*Covered services* and supplies may include, but are not limited to:

1. Allergy serum extracts.
2. Chem strips, Glucometer, Lancets.
3. Clinitest.
4. Needles/syringes.
5. Ostomy bags and supplies, except charges such as those made by a Pharmacy for purposes of a fitting, are not *covered services*.

#### Exclusions

*Non-covered services* and supplies include, but are not limited to:

1. Adhesive tape, band aids, cotton tipped applicators.
2. Arch supports.
3. Doughnut cushions.
4. Hot packs, ice bags.
5. Vitamins (except as provided for under Preventive Care Expense benefits).
6. Med-injectors.
7. Items usually stocked in the home for general use like Band-Aids, thermometers, and petroleum jelly.

#### Orthotic devices

*Covered services* are the initial purchase, fitting, and repair of a custom made rigid or semi-rigid supportive device used to support, align, prevent, or correct deformities or to improve the function of movable parts of the body, or which limits or stops motion of a weak or diseased body part. The cost of casting, molding, fittings, and adjustments are included. Applicable tax, shipping, postage, and handling charges are also covered. The casting is covered when an orthotic appliance is billed with it, but not if billed separately.

*Covered orthotic devices* and supplies may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Cervical collars.
2. Ankle foot orthosis.
3. Corsets (back and special *surgical*).
4. Splints (extremity).
5. Trusses and supports.
6. Slings.
7. Wristlets.
8. Built-up shoe.
9. Custom made shoe inserts.
10. *Medically necessary* corrective footwear, *prior authorization* may be required.

Orthotic appliances may be replaced once per year per *member* when *medically necessary* in the *member's* situation. However, additional replacements will be allowed for *members* under age 18 due to rapid growth, or for any *member* when an appliance is damaged and cannot be repaired.

#### Exclusions

Non-covered services and supplies include, but are not limited to:

1. Foot support devices, such as arch supports, unless they are an integral part of a leg brace.
2. Standard elastic stockings, garter belts, and other supplies not specifically made and fitted (except as specified under the Medical Supplies provision above).
3. Garter belts or similar devices.

#### Prosthetics

Artificial substitutes for body parts and tissues and materials inserted into tissue for functional or therapeutic purposes. *Covered services* include purchase, fitting, needed adjustment, repairs, and replacements of *prosthetic devices* and supplies if:

1. Replace all or part of a missing body part and its adjoining tissues; or
2. Replace all or part of the function of a permanently useless or malfunctioning body part.

*Prosthetic devices* should be purchased not rented and must be *medically necessary*. Applicable taxes, shipping and handling are also covered.

*Covered services* and supplies may include, but are not limited to:

1. Aids and supports for defective parts of the body including, but not limited to, internal heart valves, mitral valve, internal pacemaker, pacemaker power sources, synthetic or homograft vascular replacements, fracture fixation devices internal to the body surface, replacements for injured or diseased bone and joint substances, mandibular reconstruction appliances, bone screws, plates, and vitallium heads for joint reconstruction.
2. Left Ventricular Assist Devices (LVAD) (only when used as a bridge to a heart transplant).
3. Breast prosthesis whether internal or external, following a mastectomy, and four *surgical bras* per benefit period, as required by the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act. Maximums for *prosthetic devices*, if any, do not apply.
4. Replacements for all or part of absent parts of the body or extremities, such as artificial limbs, artificial eyes, etc.
5. Intraocular lens implantation for the treatment of cataract or aphakia. Contact lenses or glasses are often prescribed following lens implantation and are *covered services*. (If cataract extraction is performed, intraocular lenses are usually inserted during the same operative session). Eyeglasses (for example bifocals) including frames or contact lenses are covered when they replace the function of the human lens for conditions caused by cataract *surgery* or *injury*; the first pair of contact lenses or eyeglasses are covered. The donor lens inserted at the time of *surgery* are not considered contact lenses, and are not considered the first lens following *surgery*. If the *injury* is to one eye or if cataracts are removed from only one eye and the *member* selects eyeglasses and frames, then reimbursement for both lenses and frames will be covered.
6. Colostomy and other ostomy (*surgical* construction of an artificial opening) supplies directly related to ostomy care.
7. Restoration prosthesis (composite facial prosthesis).
8. Wigs (the first one following cancer treatment, not to exceed one per benefit period), when purchased through a *network* provider.

## Exclusions

Non-covered prosthetic appliances include, but are not limited to:

1. Dentures, replacing teeth, or structures directly supporting teeth.
2. Dental appliances.
3. Such non-rigid appliances as elastic stockings, garter belts, arch supports, and corsets.
4. Wigs (except as described above following cancer treatment).

## Emergency Room Services

In an *emergency* situation, you should call 911 or head straight to the nearest *emergency* room. We cover *emergency medical* and *behavioral health* services both in and out of our *service area*. We cover these services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Please note some *providers* that treat you within the ER may not be contracted with Ambetter. If that is the case, they may not *balance bill* you for the difference between our *allowed amount* and their *billed amount*.

## Family Planning and Contraception

Family planning/contraception benefits are covered under preventive care, without *cost sharing* (when provided by a contracted provider). These benefits include the following for adolescent and adult women, in accordance with the most recent guidelines supported by HRSA:

- The full range of contraceptives currently identified by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), including: (1) sterilization surgery for women, (2) implantable rods, (3) copper intrauterine devices, (4) intrauterine devices with progestin (all durations and doses), (5) injectable contraceptives, (6) oral contraceptives (combined pill), (7) oral contraceptives (progestin only), (8) oral contraceptives (extended or continuous use), (9) the contraceptive patch, (10) vaginal contraceptive rings, (11) diaphragms, (12) contraceptive sponges, (13) cervical caps, (14) condoms, (15) spermicides, (16) emergency contraception (levonorgestrel) and (17) *emergency* contraception (ulipristal acetate).
- Coverage is also available for any additional contraceptives approved, granted, or cleared by the FDA (if the patient and the patient's attending provider have determined it to be medically appropriate).
- Contraceptive care, such as: screening, education, provision of contraception, counseling and follow-up care (e.g., management, evaluation and changes, including the removal, continuation and discontinuation of contraceptives).
- Instruction in fertility awareness-based methods, including lactation amenorrhea.

**Note:** Services that are integral to the furnishing of the above-listed preventive care coverage (e.g., anesthesia provided during sterilization surgery for women), are also included under preventive care, regardless of whether the service is billed separately.

## Habilitation, Rehabilitation, and Extended Care Facility Expense Benefits

*Covered service expenses* include services provided or expenses incurred for *habilitation* or *rehabilitation services* or confinement in an *extended care facility*, subject to the following limitations:

1. *Covered service expenses* available to a *member* while confined primarily to receive *habilitation* or *rehabilitation* are limited to those specified in this provision.
2. *Rehabilitation services* or confinement in a *rehabilitation facility* or *extended care facility* must be determined medically necessary.
3. *Covered service expenses* for *provider facility* services are limited to charges made by a *hospital*, *rehabilitation facility*, or *extended care facility* for:
  - a. Daily room and board and nursing services.

- b. Diagnostic testing.
- c. Drugs and medicines that are prescribed by a *physician*, filled by a licensed pharmacist, and approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- 4. *Covered service expenses* for non-provider facility services are limited to charges incurred for the professional services of *rehabilitation licensed practitioners*.
- 5. Outpatient physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy.

*Custodial care* services are not covered under this *policy*. See the *Schedule of Benefits* for benefit levels or additional limits.

Care ceases to be *rehabilitation* upon our determination of any of the following:

- 1. The *member* has reached *maximum therapeutic benefit*.
- 2. Further treatment cannot restore bodily function beyond the level the *member* already possesses.
- 3. There is no measurable progress toward documented goals.
- 4. Care is primarily *custodial care*.

### Home Health Care Service Expense Benefits

Services must be ordered or provided by your PCP and supplies for Home Healthcare are covered when your physician indicates you are not able to travel for appointments to a medical office. Coverage is provided for medically necessary in-network care provided at the member's home and includes the following:

- 1. *Home health aide services*, only if provided in conjunction with skilled registered nurse or licensed practical nursing services.
- 2. Professional fees of a licensed respiratory, physical, occupational, or speech therapist required for *home health care*. Please refer to your *Schedule of Benefits* for any limits associated with this benefit.
- 3. Intravenous medication and pain medication are covered service expenses to the extent they would have been covered service expenses during an inpatient hospital stay. We may authorize the purchase of the equipment from a *network provider* in lieu of its rental if the rental price is projected to exceed the equipment purchase price.
- 4. Hemodialysis, and for the processing and administration of blood or blood components.
- 5. *Necessary medical supplies*.
- 6. Rental of *medically necessary durable medical equipment* at the discretion of the plan. At our option, we may authorize the purchase of the equipment in lieu of its rental if the rental price is projected to exceed the equipment purchase price, but only from a provider we authorize before the purchase.
- 7. Sleep studies.
- 8. Skilled services of a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse rendered on an outpatient basis.

#### Limitations:

See the *Schedule of Benefits* for benefit levels or additional limits for expenses related to *home health aide services*. *Home health care* services not in conjunction with a registered or licensed practical nurse and home health aide are not covered.

#### Exclusion:

No benefits will be payable for charges related to *respite care*, *custodial care*, or educational care under the Home Health Care Service Expense Benefit.

## Hospice Care Service Expense Benefits

Hospice care benefits are allowable for a *terminally ill member* receiving *medically necessary* care under a hospice care program or in a home setting. *Respite care* is covered on an *inpatient* or home basis to allow temporary relief to family *members* from the duties of caring for a *member* under hospice care. Respite days that are applied toward the *member's cost share* obligations, are considered benefits provided and shall apply against any maximum benefit limit for these services. See your *Schedule of Benefits* for coverage limits. *Covered services* and supplies include:

1. Room and board in a *hospice* while the *member* is *inpatient*.
2. Occupational therapy.
3. Speech-language therapy.
4. The rental of *medical* equipment while the *terminally ill covered person* is in a *hospice* care program to the extent that these items would have been covered under the *policy* if the *member* had been confined in a *hospital*.
5. Medical, palliative, and supportive care, and the procedures necessary for pain control and acute and chronic symptom management.
6. Counseling the *member* regarding his or her *terminal illness*.
7. *Terminal illness counseling* of the *member's immediate family*.
8. *Bereavement counseling*.

There is no limitation on the number of covered days for *inpatient* and outpatient *hospice* or *hospice* provided in the home.

## Exclusions and Limitations

Any exclusion or limitation contained in the *policy* regarding:

1. An *injury* or *illness* arising out of, or in the course of, employment for wage or profit;
2. Medical necessity of services or supplies, to the extent such services or supplies are provided as part of a *hospice* care program; or
3. Expenses for other persons, to the extent those expenses are described above, will not be applied to this provision.

## Hospital Benefits

*Covered service expenses* are limited to charges made by a *hospital* for:

1. Daily room and board and nursing services, not to exceed the *hospital's* most common semi-private room rate.
2. Daily room and board and nursing services while confined in an *intensive care unit*.
3. *Inpatient* use of an operating, treatment, or recovery room.
4. Outpatient use of an operating, treatment, or recovery room for *surgery*.
5. Services and supplies, including drugs and medicines, which are routinely provided by the *hospital* to persons for use only while they are *inpatients*.
6. *Emergency* treatment of an *injury* or *illness*, even if confinement is not required. See your *Schedule of Benefits* for limitations.
7. A private hospital room when needed for isolation.

## Infertility Services

*Covered service expenses* under this benefit are provided for *medically necessary* diagnostic and exploratory procedures to determine infertility, including *surgical procedures* and *prescription drugs*, to correct a medically diagnosed disease or condition of the reproductive organs including, but not limited to, treatment of the following:

- Endometriosis;
- Collapsed/clogged fallopian tubes; or
- Testicular failure

This benefit is subject to *deductible* and *coinsurance/copayment*.

No benefits will be payable for charges related to artificial insemination, in vitro (IVF), embryo transplant, gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT), and zygote intrafallopian transfer (ZIFT).

## Long Term Acute Care

Long-term acute care hospitals (LTACHs) furnish extended medical and rehabilitative care to individuals with clinically complex problems, such as multiple acute or chronic conditions, that need hospital-level care for relatively extended periods.

Common conditions/services that may be considered medically necessary for LTACH level of care included, but are not limited to:

1. Complex wound care:
  - a. Daily physician monitoring of wound
  - b. Wound requiring frequent complicated dressing changes, and possible repeated debridement of necrotic tissue
  - c. Large wound with possible delayed closure, draining, and/or tunneling or high output fistulas
  - d. Lower extremity wound with severe ischemia
  - e. Skin flaps and grafts requiring frequent monitoring
2. Infectious disease:
  - a. Parenteral anti-infective agent(s) with adjustments in dose
  - b. Intensive sepsis management
  - c. Common conditions include osteomyelitis, cellulitis, bacteremia, endocarditis, peritonitis, meningitis/encephalitis, abscess and wound infections
3. Medical complexity:
  - a. Primary condition and at least two other actively treated co-morbid conditions that require monitoring and treatment
  - b. Common conditions include metabolic disorders, stroke, heart failure, renal insufficiency, necrotizing pancreatitis, emphysema (COPD), peripheral vascular disease, and malignant/end-stage disease
4. Rehabilitation:
  - a. Care needs cannot be met in a rehabilitation or skilled nursing facility
  - b. Patient has a comorbidity requiring acute care
  - c. Patient is able to participate in a goal-oriented rehabilitation plan of care
  - d. Common conditions include CNS conditions with functional limitations, debilitation, amputation, cardiac disease, orthopedic surgery
5. Mechanical ventilator support:
  - a. Failed weaning attempts at an acute care facility
  - b. Patient has received mechanical ventilation for 21 consecutive days for 6 hours or more/day
  - c. Ventilator management required at least every 4 hours as well as appropriate diagnostic services and assessments
  - d. Patient exhibits weaning potential, without untreatable and/or progressive lung and/or neurological conditions
  - e. Patient is hemodynamically stable and not dependent on vasopressors

- f. Respiratory status is stable with maximum PEEP requirement 10 cm H<sub>2</sub>O, and FiO<sub>2</sub> 60 percent or less with O<sub>2</sub> saturation at least 90 percent
- g. Common conditions include complications of acute lung injury, disorders of the central nervous and neuromuscular systems, and cardiovascular, respiratory, and pleural/chest wall disorders
- h. Patient continues to meet the criteria above and does not meet the criteria to be transitioned to alternate level of care.

## Lymphedema Benefit

Treatment of lymphedema is covered when rendered or prescribed by a licensed physician or received in a hospital or other public or private facility authorized to provide lymphedema treatment. Coverage includes multilayer compression bandaging systems and custom or standard-fit gradient compression garments.

## Mammography

*Covered service expenses* for routine screenings for breast cancer shall include screenings at the following intervals: 1 Baseline breast cancer screening mammography for a *member* between the ages of 35 and 40 years. If the *member* is less than 40 years of age and at risk, 1 breast cancer screening mammography performed every year. If the *member* is at least 40 years of age, 1 breast cancer screening mammography every year and any additional mammography views that are required for proper evaluation.

## Maternity Care

Coverage for outpatient and *inpatient* pre- and post-partum care including examinations, prenatal diagnosis of genetic disorder, laboratory and radiology diagnostic testing, health education, nutritional counseling, risk assessment, childbirth classes, and *hospital* stays for delivery or other *medically necessary* reasons (less any applicable *copayments*, *deductible*, and *coinsurance*). An *inpatient* stay is covered for at least 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, and for at least 96 hours following a cesarean delivery. An *inpatient* stay longer than 48 hours for a vaginal delivery or 96 hours for a cesarean delivery will require notification to the Health Plan. Other maternity benefits include *complications of pregnancy*, parent education, assistance, and training in breast or bottle feeding and the performance of any necessary and appropriate clinical tests. Coverage will only be provided for maternity services or care of the newborn child when such services have been *authorized* by your *network* health care *provider*. We do not require that a *physician* or other healthcare *provider* obtain *prior authorization* for the delivery.

Under federal law, health insurance issuers generally may not restrict benefits otherwise provided for any *hospital* length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery or less than 96 hours following a delivery by cesarean section. However, we may provide benefits for *covered service expenses* incurred for a shorter stay if the attending *provider* (e.g., your *physician*, nurse, midwife, or physician assistant), after consultation with the mother, discharges the mother or newborn earlier.

The level of benefits and out-of-pocket costs for any later part of the 48-hour (or 96-hour) stay will not be less favorable to the mother or newborn than any earlier part of the stay. We do not require that a *physician* or other health care *provider* obtain *authorization* for prescribing a length of stay of up to 48 hours (or 96 hours).

**Note:** This provision does not amend the *policy* to restrict any terms, limits, or conditions that may otherwise apply to *surrogates* and children born from *surrogates*. Please reference General Non-Covered Services and Exclusions section as limitations may exist.

## Duty to Cooperate

We do not cover services or supplies for *members* who are a *surrogate* during the course of their *surrogacy arrangement*. For more information on excluded services, please see the General Non-Covered Services and Exclusions section. *Members* who are a *surrogate* at the time of enrollment or *members* who agree to a *surrogacy arrangement* during the plan year must, within 30 days of enrollment or agreement to participate in a *surrogacy arrangement*, send us written notice of the *surrogacy arrangement* to Ambetter from Meridian at Member Services, 1 Campus Martius, Suite 700 Detroit, MI 48226. In the event that a *member* fails to comply with this provision, we reserve our right to enforce this EOC on the basis of fraud, misrepresentation or false information, up to and including recoupment of all benefits that we paid on behalf of the *surrogate* during the time that the *surrogate* was insured under our *policy*, plus interest, attorneys' fees, costs and all other remedies available to us.

## Newborn Charges

*Medically necessary* services, including *hospital* services, are provided for a covered newborn child immediately after birth. *Covered services* include coverage for *injury or illness*, including *medically necessary* care and treatment of diagnosed congenital defects and birth abnormalities. Each type of *covered service* incurred by the newborn child will be subject to his/her own *cost sharing* (*copayment, coinsurance* percentage, *deductible* and *maximum out-of-pocket amount*), as listed in the *Schedule of Benefits*. Please refer to the Dependent Member Coverage section of this document for details regarding Coverage for a Newborn Child/Coverage for an Adopted Child.

## Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act Statement of Rights

If services provided or expenses incurred for *hospital* confinement in connection with childbirth are otherwise included as *covered service expenses*, we will not limit the number of days for these expenses to less than that stated in this provision.

## Medical and Surgical Expense Benefits

*Covered service expenses* are subject to all other terms and conditions of the *policy*, including the *deductible amount* and *cost sharing* provisions. Medical *covered services* and supplies are limited to charges:

1. For *surgery* in a *physician's* office or at an *outpatient surgical facility*, including services and supplies.
2. For the professional services of a *medical practitioner*, including *surgery*.
3. For dressings, crutches, orthopedic splints, braces, casts, or other *necessary medical supplies*.
4. For diagnostic testing using radiologic, ultrasonographic, or laboratory services (psychometric, behavioral and educational testing are not included).
5. For chemotherapy and radiation therapy or treatment (including antineoplastic drugs).
6. For hemodialysis, and the charges by a *hospital* for processing and administration of blood or blood components.
7. For the cost and administration of an anesthetic.
8. For oxygen and its administration.
9. For *surgery*, excluding tooth extraction, to treat craniomandibular disorders, malocclusions, or disorders of the temporomandibular joint. See your *Schedule of Benefits* for benefit levels or additional limits.
10. For accidental dental service expenses when a member suffers an injury, that results in:
  1. Damage to his or her natural teeth;
  2. Expenses are incurred within six months of the accident or as part of a treatment plan that was prescribed by a health care professional and began within 12 months of the accident to be considered as a *covered service*; and
  3. Injury to the natural teeth will not include any injury as a result of chewing.



11. For reconstructive breast *surgery* charges as a result of a partial or total mastectomy. Coverage includes *surgery* and reconstruction of the diseased and non-diseased breast and *prosthetic devices* necessary to restore a symmetrical appearance and treatment in connection with other physical complications resulting from the mastectomy including lymphedemas.
12. For *medically necessary chiropractic care* treatment on an outpatient basis only. See the *Schedule of Benefits* for benefit levels or additional limits. *Covered service expenses* are subject to all other terms and conditions of the *policy*, including the *deductible amount* and *percentage* provisions.
13. For *medically necessary* evaluation and treatment of chronic pain.
14. For the following types of tissue transplants:
  1. Cornea transplants.
  2. Artery or vein grafts.
  3. Heart valve grafts.
  4. Prosthetic tissue replacement, including joint replacements.
  5. Implantable prosthetic lenses, in connection with cataracts.
15. Family planning for certain professional *provider* contraceptive services and supplies, including but not limited to vasectomy, tubal ligation and insertion or extraction of United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved contraceptive devices.
16. For *medically necessary services* made by a *physician* who renders services in an in-network *urgent care center*, including facility costs and supplies.
17. Radiology services, including X-ray, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computed Tomography (CAT scan), Positron Emission Tomography (PET scan), and ultrasound imaging.
18. For allergy testing, injections, and serum.
19. For *medically necessary telehealth services* subject to the same clinical and *utilization review* criteria, plan requirements, limitations and *cost sharing* as the same health care services when delivered to an insured in person. *Telehealth Services* provided by Ambetter Telehealth are subject to \$0 *copay*. *Telehealth Services* not provided by Ambetter Telehealth would be subject to the same *cost sharing* as the same health care services when delivered to a *member* in-person. Pursuant to federal regulation, the \$0 cost share does not apply to *members* enrolled in an HSA-eligible plan. Please review your *Schedule of Benefits* to determine if your plan is HSA-eligible. Refer to IRS guidance for eligible medical expenditures under an HSA.
20. For the following *surgical procedures*, if *medically necessary*:
  1. Blepharoplasty of upper lids;
  2. Breast reduction;
  3. Surgical treatment of male gynecomastia;
  4. Panniculectomy; and
  5. Rhinoplasty/Septorhinoplasty when related to the treatment of sleep apnea
21. For *prior authorized, physician* supervised, weight management programs for the treatment of morbid obesity.
22. For *medically necessary bariatric surgery*.
23. For *medically necessary* genetic blood tests.
24. For *medically necessary* immunizations to prevent respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).
25. For *medically necessary* biofeedback services.
26. For *medically necessary* allergy treatment.
27. For *medically necessary* bone mass measurement and for diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis.
28. For therapeutic abortion performed to save the life of the *member*, or as required by *applicable law*.
29. For respiratory and pulmonary therapy.
30. For the treatment of breast cancer by dose-intensive chemotherapy/autologous bone marrow transplants or stem cell transplants when performed pursuant to nationally accepted peer review

protocols utilized by breast cancer treatment centers experienced in dose-intensive chemotherapy/autologous bone marrow transplants or stem cell transplants.

31. For cancer screenings, as follows:
  1. A pelvic examination and pap smear for any nonsymptomatic woman who is a member, in accordance with the current American Cancer Society guidelines;
  2. A prostate examination and laboratory tests for cancer for any nonsymptomatic man who is a member, in accordance with the current American Cancer Society guidelines; and
  3. A colorectal cancer examination and laboratory tests for cancer for any nonsymptomatic member, in accordance with the current American Cancer Society guidelines.
32. For medically necessary diagnostic and laboratory and x-ray tests.
33. For the provision of nonprescription enteral formulas and food products required for members with inherited diseases of amino acids and organic acids. Such coverage shall be provided when the prescribing health care professional has issued a written order stating that the enteral formula or food product is medically necessary. Coverage for inherited diseases of amino acids and organic acids shall, in addition to the enteral formula, include food products modified to be low protein.
34. Wigs (not to exceed one per calendar year) when purchased through a *network provider*. This coverage is only provided for *member* who suffer from hair loss as a result of an underlying medical condition, treatment *injury*. Coverage shall be subject to a written recommendation by the treating physician stating that the wig is *medically necessary*.
35. For surgery, excluding tooth extraction, to treat craniomandibular disorders, or malocclusions.
36. For pulse oximetry screening on a newborn.
37. For well childcare examinations for children through the age of 12, including child health supervision services, based on American Academy of Pediatric Guidelines. Refer to Preventive Services for a list of well child/well baby services.
38. Newborn hearing screening, necessary rescreening, audiological assessment and follow-up, and initial amplification.
39. For children's early intervention therapy for expenses arising from the services of licensed and credentialed occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, and clinical social workers working with children from birth to 36 months of age with an identified developmental disability and/or delay.
40. Cost for human leukocyte antigen testing, also referred to as histocompatibility locus antigen testing, for A, B, and DR antigens for utilization in bone marrow transplantation. Coverage is limited to a maximum cost of \$75 per transplant.
41. Dental anesthesia charges include coverage for the administration of general anesthesia and hospital charges for dental care, rendered by a dentist, provided to the following members:
  1. a child under the age of five;
  2. a person who is severely disabled; or
  3. a person who has a medical or behavioral condition which requires hospitalization or general anesthesia when dental care is provided.
42. Services related to diagnosis, treatment and appropriate management of osteoporosis when such services are provided by a person licensed to practice medicine and surgery in the state, if the member has a condition or medical history for which bone mass measurement is medically indicated.
43. *Medically necessary* routine foot care, *prior authorization* may be required.

## Medical Foods

We cover *medical* foods and formulas for outpatient total parenteral nutritional therapy; outpatient elemental formulas for malabsorption; and dietary formula when *medically necessary* for the treatment of Phenylketonuria (PKU) and inborn errors of metabolism.

Exclusions: any other dietary formulas, oral nutritional supplements, special diets, prepared foods/meals and formula for access problems.

## Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Benefits

*The coverage described below is designed to comply with requirements under the Paul Wellstone-Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.*

If you need mental health or *substance use disorder* treatment, you may choose any *provider* participating in our *behavioral health* and *substance use disorder provider network* and do not need a referral from your *PCP* in order to initiate treatment. You can search for *network behavioral health providers* by using the “Find a Provider” function at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com) or by calling Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711). You can also obtain *covered services* for mental health to be provided to you by a provider operated by, or under contract, with the Michigan Department of Mental Health or a county community mental health board in the instance (1) appropriate mental health services cannot be delivered otherwise, or (2) if the provider of the mental health services is designated by an order of a court. The mental health provider must be licensed/certified by the state in which care is being rendered and performing services within the scope of that license/certification. *Deductible amounts, copayment, or coinsurance* amounts and treatment limits for covered mental health and *substance use disorder* benefits will be applied in the same manner as physical health service benefits.

*Covered services* for mental health and *substance use disorder* are included on a non-discriminatory basis for all *members* for the diagnosis and *medically necessary* treatment of mental, emotional, or *substance use disorders* as defined in this *policy*.

When making coverage determinations, our *behavioral health* and substance use Utilization Management staff utilize established level of care guidelines and *medical* necessity criteria that are based on currently accepted standards of practice and take into account legal and regulatory requirements. Our *behavioral health* and substance use staff utilize Change Healthcare’s InterQual criteria for mental health determinations and American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria for *substance use* determinations. Services should always be provided in the least restrictive clinically appropriate setting. Any determination that requested services are not *medically necessary* will be made by a qualified licensed mental health professional.

Covered *inpatient* and outpatient mental health and/or *substance use disorder* services are as follows:

### Inpatient

1. *Inpatient* Psychiatric Hospitalization;
2. *Inpatient* Detoxification Treatment;
3. *Inpatient Rehabilitation*;
4. Crisis Stabilization;
5. *Residential Treatment facility* for mental health and *substance use disorder*; and
6. Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT).

### Outpatient

1. Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP);
2. Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP);
3. Mental health day treatment;
4. Outpatient detoxification programs;
5. Evaluation and assessment for mental health and *substance use*;
6. Individual and group therapy for mental health and *substance use disorders*;

7. Medication Assisted Treatment – combines behavioral therapy and medications to treat *substance use disorders*;
8. Medication management services;
9. Psychological and Neuropsychological testing and assessment;
10. *Applied Behavior Analysis* for treatment of *autism spectrum disorders*;
11. *Telehealth*;
12. Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT);
13. *Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)*; and
14. Assertive Community Treatment (ACT).

In addition, Integrated Care Management is available for all of your health care needs, including *behavioral health* and substance use. Please call 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711) to be referred to a care manager for an assessment.

Expenses for these services are covered, if *medically necessary* and may be subject to *prior authorization*. Please see the *Schedule of Benefits* for more information regarding services that require *prior authorization* and specific benefit, if any.

*Telehealth services* provided by *Ambetter Telehealth Vendors* are subject to \$0 copay. *Telehealth services* not provided by *Ambetter Telehealth Vendors* would be subject to the same cost sharing as the same health care services when delivered to an insured in-person. Pursuant to federal regulation, the \$0 cost share does not apply to members enrolled in an HSA-eligible plan. Please review your *Schedule of Benefits* to determine if your plan is HSA-eligible.

## Other Dental Services

Anesthesia and *hospital* charges for dental care, for a *member* less than 19 years of age or a *member* who is physically or mentally disabled, are covered if the *member* requires dental treatment to be given in a *hospital or outpatient ambulatory surgical facility*. The indications for general anesthesia, as published in the reference manual of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, should be used to determine whether performing dental procedures is necessary to treat the *member's* condition under general anesthesia.

Coverage is also provided for:

1. For *medically necessary* oral surgery, including the following:
  - a. Treatment of medically diagnosed cleft lip, cleft palate, or ectodermal dysplasia;
  - b. Orthognathic surgery for a physical abnormality that prevents normal function of the upper and/or lower jawbone and is medically necessary to attain functional capacity of the affected part.
  - c. Oral/surgical correction of accidental injuries as indicated in the “Dental Services” section.
  - d. Treatment for Temporomandibular Joint Disorder (TMJ), including removable appliances for TMJ repositioning and related surgery, medical care, and diagnostic services.
  - e. Treatment of non-dental lesions, such as removal of tumors and biopsies.
  - f. Incision and drainage of infection of soft tissue not including odontogenic cysts or abscesses.
  - g. Surgical procedures that are *medically necessary* to correct disorders caused by (or resulting in) a specific medical condition such as degenerative arthritis, jaw fractures or jaw dislocations.

- h. Reconstructive surgery to correct significant deformities caused by congenital or developmental abnormalities, illness, injury or an earlier treatment in order to create a more normal appearance.
- 2. Dental anesthesia charges include coverage for the administration of general anesthesia and hospital or office charges for dental care, rendered by a dentist, regardless of whether the services are provided in a *network hospital*, surgical center or office, provided to the following members:
  - a. A *member* under the age of 19;
  - b. a person who is severely disabled; or
  - c. a person who has a medical or behavioral condition which requires hospitalization or general anesthesia when dental care is provided.
- 3. For dental service expenses when a *member* suffers an injury, that results in:
  - a. Damage to his or her natural teeth;
  - b. *Injury* to the natural teeth will not include any injury as a result of chewing.
- 4. For surgery, excluding tooth extraction, to treat craniomandibular disorders, or malocclusions.

## Outpatient Medical Supplies Expense Benefits

*Covered services* and supplies for outpatient *medical* supplies are limited to charges:

- 1. For artificial eyes or larynx, breast prosthesis, or basic artificial limbs, including *medically necessary* repairs or replacement to restore or maintain a *member's* ability to perform activities of daily living or essential job-related activities.
- 2. For one pair of foot orthotics per year per *member*.
- 3. For four mastectomy bras per year if the *member* has undergone a covered mastectomy.
- 4. For rental of a standard *hospital* bed, a standard walker, a standard non-motorized wheelchair, a wheelchair cushion, and a ventilator.
- 5. For the rental of one Continuous Passive Motion (CPM) machine per *member* following a covered joint *surgery*.
- 6. For the cost of one wig per *covered person* necessitated by hair loss due to cancer treatments or traumatic burns.
- 7. For one pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses per *member* following a covered cataract *surgery*.
- 8. For all United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved contraception methods without *cost sharing* as required under the Affordable Care Act.
- 9. Testing of pregnant women and other members for lead poisoning.
- 10. For any other use of a drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) when the drug has not been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of the particular indication for which the drug has been prescribed, provided such drug is recognized for treatment of such indication in one of the standard reference compendia or in the medical literature as recommended by current American Medical Association (AMA) policies. Any coverage of a drug required shall also include medically necessary services associated with the administration of the drug. This benefit shall not be construed to require:
  - a. Coverage for any drug if the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has determined its use to be contraindicated for the treatment of the particular indication for which the drug has been prescribed;
  - b. Coverage for experimental or investigational drugs not approved for any indication by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and
  - c. Reimbursement or coverage for any drug not included on the drug formulary or list of covered drugs specified in this policy.
- 11. Infusion therapy.

## Pediatric Vision Benefits – Children under the age of 19

Coverage for vision services is provided for children, under the age of 19, through the end of the plan year in which they turn 19 years of age.

1. Routine ophthalmological exam
  - a. Refraction;
  - b. Dilation
2. Contact lens fitting.
3. Standard Frames
4. Prescription lenses
  - a. Single;
  - b. Bifocal;
  - c. Trifocal;
  - d. Lenticular; or
  - e. Contact lenses (in lieu of glasses).
5. Additional lens options (including coating and tints)
  - a. Progressive lenses (standard or premium);
  - b. Intermediate vision lenses;
  - c. Blended segment lenses;
  - d. Hi-index lenses;
  - e. Plastic photosensitive lenses;
  - f. Photochromic glass lenses;
  - g. Glass-grey #3 prescription sunglass lenses;
  - h. Fashion and gradient tinting;
  - i. Ultraviolet protective coating
  - j. Polarized lenses;
  - k. Scratch resistant coating;
  - l. Anti-reflective coating (standard, premium or ultra);
  - m. Oversized lenses;
  - n. Polycarbonate lenses.
6. Low vision aids as *medically necessary*.

Please refer to your *Schedule of Benefits* for a detailed list of *cost sharing*, annual maximum and appropriate services limitations. To see which vision *providers* are part of the *network*, please visit [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com) or call Member Services.

### Services not covered:

1. Visual therapy;
2. Two pair of glasses as a substitute for bifocals;
3. Deluxe frame/frame upgrade; and
4. LASIK *surgery*.

## Prescription Drug Expense Benefits

We work with *providers* and pharmacists to ensure that we cover medications used to treat a variety of conditions and diseases.

*Covered service expenses* in this benefit subsection are limited to charges from a licensed *pharmacy* for:

1. A *prescription drug*.
2. Prescribed, oral anticancer medication.
3. Any drug that, under the applicable state law, may be dispensed only upon the written prescription of a *physician*.
4. Off-label drugs that are:
  - a. Recognized for treatment of the indication in at least one *standard reference compendium*;  
or
  - b. Recommended for a particular type of cancer and found to be safe and effective in formal clinical studies, the results of which have been published in a peer reviewed professional *medical journal* published in the United States or Great Britain.
5. Self-administered human growth hormones to treat children with short stature who have an absolute deficiency in natural growth hormone.
6. Intranasal spray opioid reversal agent, when prescriptions of opioids are dosages of 50MME or higher.

As used in this section, *Standard Reference Compendium* means (a) The American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information, (b) The American Medical Association Drug Evaluation, or (c) The United States Pharmacopoeia-Drug Information.

The appropriate drug choice for a *member* is a determination that is best made by the *member* and his or her *medical practitioner*.

Such covered service expenses shall include those for prescribed, orally administered anticancer medications. The covered service expenses shall be no less favorable than for intravenously administered or injected cancer medications that are covered as medical benefits under this contract.

### Lock-in Program:

To help decrease overutilization and abuse, certain *members* identified through our Lock-in Program, may be locked into a specific pharmacy for the duration of their participation in the lock-in program. *Members* locked into a specific pharmacy will be able to obtain their medication(s) only at a specified location. Ambetter pharmacy, together with Medical Management will review *member* profiles and using specific criteria, will recommend *members* for participation in the lock-in program. *Members* identified for participation in the lock-in program and associated providers will be notified of *member* participation in the program via mail. Such communication will include information on duration of participation, pharmacy to which *member* is locked-in, and any appeals rights.

### Self-injectable Drugs:

Self-injectable drugs are delivered into a muscle or under the skin with a syringe and needle. Although medical supervision or instruction may be needed in the beginning, the patient or caregiver can administer self-injectable drugs safely and effectively. Self-injectable drugs are covered under the prescription drug benefits; prescription drug cost share applies.

## Non-Covered Services and Exclusions

No benefits will be paid under this benefit provision for services provided or expenses incurred:

1. For *prescription drug* treatment of erectile dysfunction or any enhancement of sexual performance unless such treatment is listed on the *formulary*.
2. For weight loss *prescription drugs* unless otherwise listed on the *formulary*.
3. For immunization agents otherwise not required by the Affordable Care Act.
4. For medication that is to be taken by the *member*, in whole or in part, at the place where it is dispensed.
5. For medication received while the *member* is a patient at an institution that has a facility for dispensing pharmaceuticals.
6. For a refill dispensed more than 12 months from the date of a *physician's* order.
7. For more than the predetermined *managed drug limitations* assigned to certain drugs or classification of drugs.
8. For a *prescription order* that is available in over-the-counter form, or comprised of components that are available in over-the-counter form, and is therapeutically equivalent, except for over-the-counter products that are listed on the *formulary*.
9. For drugs labeled "Caution - limited by federal law to *investigational* use" or for *investigational* or *experimental* drugs.
10. For more than a 30-day supply when dispensed in any one prescription or refill, or for maintenance drugs, up to 90-day supply when dispensed by that participates in extended day supply *network*. Specialty drugs and other select drug categories are limited to a 30-day supply when dispensed by retail or mail order. Please note that only the 90-day supply is subject to the discounted *cost-sharing*. Mail orders less than 90-days are subject to the standard *cost-sharing* amount.
11. For *prescription drugs* for any *member* who enrolls in Medicare Part D as of the date of his or her enrollment in Medicare Part D. *Prescription drug* coverage may not be reinstated at a later date.
12. For any drug that we identify as therapeutic duplication through the Drug Utilization Review program.
13. For drugs or dosage amounts determined by Ambetter's Pharmacy and Therapy committee to be ineffective, unproven, or unsafe for the indication for which they have been prescribed, regardless of whether the drugs or dosage amounts have been approved by any governmental regulatory body for that use.
14. For foreign Prescription Medications, except those associated with an *emergency medical* condition while you are traveling outside the United States. These exceptions apply only to medications with an equivalent FDA-approved prescription medication that would be covered under this document if obtained in the United States.
15. For prevention of any diseases that are not endemic to the United States, such as malaria, and where preventive treatment is related to *member's* vacation during out of country travel. This section does not prohibit coverage of treatment for aforementioned diseases.
16. For medications used for cosmetic purposes.
17. For infertility drugs, except when prescribed to treat the underlying causes of infertility, or otherwise listed on the *formulary*.
18. For any drug related to dental restorative treatment or treatment of chronic periodontitis, where drug administration occurs at dental practitioner's office.
19. For any drug related to *surrogate pregnancy*.
20. For any controlled substance that exceeds state established maximum morphine equivalents in a particular time period, as established by state laws and regulations.
21. For any claim submitted by non-lock-in pharmacy while *member* is in lock-in status. To facilitate appropriate benefit use and prevent opioid overutilization, *member's* participation in lock-in status will be determined by review of pharmacy claims.



22. For any prescription or over the counter version of vitamin(s) unless otherwise included on the *formulary*.
23. For any injectable medication or biological product that is not expected to be self-administered by the *member* at *member's* place of *residence* unless listed on the *formulary*.
24. For medication refills where a *member* has more than 15 days' supply of medication on hand.
25. Compound drugs, unless there is at least one ingredient that is a United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved drug.

*Cost sharing* paid on your behalf for any *prescription drugs* with a generic equivalent will not apply towards your plan *deductible* or your *maximum out-of-pocket* if a *drug discount, coupon, copayment card, or manufacturer supplied prepaid credit card* was used.

#### Formulary or Prescription Drug List

The *formulary* or *prescription drug* list is a guide to available generic and brand name drugs and some over-the-counter medications, when ordered by a *physician* that are approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and covered through your *prescription drug* benefit. Generic drugs have the same active ingredients as their brand name counterparts and should be considered the first line of treatment. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requires generics to be safe and work the same as brand name drugs. If there is no generic available, there may be more than one brand name drug to treat a condition. Preferred brand name drugs are listed on Tier 2 of the Drug List to help identify brand name drugs that are clinically appropriate, safe and cost effective treatment options, if a generic medication on the *formulary* is not suitable for your condition.

Please note, the *formulary* is not meant to be a complete list of the drugs covered under your prescription benefit. Not all dosage forms or strengths of a drug may be covered. This list is periodically reviewed and updated and may be subject to change. Drugs may be added or removed or additional requirements may be added in order to approve continued usage of a specific drug. When a drug is not a *formulary* drug and is a *medically necessary* and appropriate alternative, it may be covered, subject to the terms of this policy.

Specific prescription benefit plan designs may not cover certain products or categories, regardless of their appearance in the *formulary*. For the most current *formulary* or *prescription drug* list or for more information about our pharmacy program, visit [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com) (under "For Member", "Drug Coverage") or call Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711

#### Over-the-Counter (OTC) Prescriptions

We cover a variety of over-the-counter (OTC) medications when ordered by a *physician*. You can find a list of covered over-the-counter medications in our *formulary* – they will be marked as "OTC". Your *prescription order* must meet all legal requirements.

#### Diabetic Care Expenses

The total amount you will be required to pay for a covered insulin drug will not exceed any state and/or federal mandated limits.

#### How to Fill a Prescription

*Prescription order* can be filled at an in-*network* retail pharmacy or through our mail-order pharmacy.

If you decide to have your prescription filled at an in-*network* pharmacy, you can use the Provider Directory to find a pharmacy near you. You can access the Provider Directory at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com) on the "Find a Provider" page. You can also call Member Services to help you find a pharmacy. At the pharmacy, you will need to provide the pharmacist with your prescription and your *member* identification card.

We also offer a three-month (90-day) supply of maintenance medications by mail or from *network* retail pharmacies for specific benefit plans. These drugs treat long-term conditions or *illnesses*, such as high blood pressure, asthma and diabetes. You can find a list of covered medications on [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com). You can also request to have a copy mailed directly to you.

#### Medication Balance-On-Hand

Medication refills are prohibited until a *member's* cumulative balance-on-hand is equal to or fewer than 15 days' supply of medication. This provision operates in addition to any applicable medication quantity limit or refill guidelines.

#### Split-Fill Dispensing Program

*Members* are limited to 15-day supplies for the first 90 days when starting new therapy using certain medications (like oral oncology). *Members* pay half the 30-day cost share for a 15-day supply, and would be responsible for the other half of the 30-day cost share for each additional 15-day supply. After 90 days, *members* will fill their medication for 30-day supplies.

#### Mail Order Pharmacy

If you have more than one prescription you take regularly, you may select to enroll in our mail order delivery program. Your prescriptions will be safely delivered right to your door at no extra charge to you. You will still be responsible for your regular *copayment/coinsurance*. To enroll for mail order delivery or for any additional questions, call our mail order pharmacy at 1-888-624-1139. Alternatively, you can fill out an enrollment form and mail the form to the address provided at the bottom of the form. The enrollment form can be found on our website. Once on our website, click on the section, "For Member," "Drug Coverage." The enrollment form will be located under "Forms."

### Prescription Drug Exception Process

#### Standard exception request

A *member*, a *member's* authorized representative or a *member's* prescribing *physician* may request a standard review of a decision that a drug is not covered by the plan or a protocol exception for step therapy. The request can be made in writing or via telephone. Within 72 hours of the request being received, we will provide the *member*, the *member's* designee or the *member's* prescribing *physician* with our coverage determination. Should the standard exception request or step therapy protocol exception request be granted, we will provide coverage of the non-*formulary* drug for the duration of the prescription, including refills, or of the drug that is the subject of the protocol exception.

#### Expedited exception request

A *member*, a *member's* designee or a *member's* prescribing *physician* may request an expedited review based on exigent circumstances. Exigent circumstances exist when a *member* is suffering from a health condition that may seriously jeopardize the *member's* life, health, or ability to regain maximum function or when a *member* is undergoing a current course of treatment using a non-*formulary* drug. Within 24 hours of the request being received, we will provide the *member*, the *member's* designee or the *member's* prescribing *physician* with our coverage determination. Should the standard exception or step therapy protocol exception request be granted, we will provide coverage of the non-*formulary* drug or the drug that is the subject of the protocol exception for the duration of the exigency.

#### External exception request review

If we deny a request for a standard exception or for an expedited exception, the *member*, the *member's* designee or the *member's* prescribing *physician* may request that the original exception request and subsequent denial of such request be reviewed by an independent review organization. We will make our determination on the external exception request and notify the *member*, the *member's* designee or the

*member's* prescribing *physician* of our coverage determination no later than 72 hours following receipt of the request, if the original request was a standard exception, and no later than 24 hours following its receipt of the request, if the original request was an expedited exception.

If we grant an external exception review of a standard exception or step therapy protocol exception request, we will provide coverage of the non-*formulary* drug or the drug that is the subject of the protocol exception for the duration of the prescription. If we grant an external exception review of an expedited exception request, we will provide coverage of the non-*formulary* drug or the drug that is the subject of the protocol exception for the duration of the exigency.

## Preventive Care Expense Benefits

Preventive care services are covered as required by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). According to the ACA, preventive care services must include the following:

- Evidence based items or services that have in effect a rating of A or B in the current recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF).
- Immunizations for routine use in children, adolescents and adults that have in effect a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- With respect to infants, children and adolescents, evidence-informed preventive care and screenings provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).
- With respect to women, such additional preventive care and screenings as provided for in comprehensive guidelines supported by the HRSA, including services that are integral to the furnishing of a recommended preventive service.

Preventive care benefits obtained from a network provider are covered without member cost share (i.e., covered in full without deductible, coinsurance or copayment). For current information regarding available preventive care benefits, please access the Federal Government's website at: <https://www.healthcare.gov/coverage/preventive-care-benefits/>.

Preventive care refers to services or measures taken to promote health and early detection or prevention of diseases and injuries, rather than treating or curing them. Preventive care includes, but is not limited to, immunizations, medications, tobacco cessation treatment, examinations and screening tests tailored to an individual's age, health and family history.

Certain services can be performed for preventive or diagnostic reasons (e.g., mammograms). If a service is deemed preventive care and is appropriately reported/billed, it will be covered under the preventive care services benefit. However, when a service is performed for diagnostic purposes and reported/billed accordingly, it will be considered a non-preventive medical benefit and appropriate cost share will apply. Note: If preventive and diagnostic services are performed during the same visit, applicable cost share will be taken for the latter.

As new preventive care recommendations and guidelines are issued (by the USPSTF, CDC or HRSA), those services will become covered preventive care benefits. According to the ACA, coverage of new recommendations and guidelines become effective upon a plan's start or anniversary date that is one year after the date the recommendation or guideline is issued.

**Note:** In addition to providing coverage in accordance with the ACA, we also provide preventive care benefits in accordance with applicable State law.

## Notification

As required by section 2715(d)(4) of the Public Health Service Act, we will provide 60 days advance notice to you before any material modification will become effective, including any changes to preventive benefits covered under this contract. You may access our website or the Member Services Department at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711) to get the answers to many of your frequently asked questions regarding preventive services. Our website has resources and features that make it easy to get quality care. Our website can be accessed at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com).

## Prostate Specific Antigen Testing

*Covered service expenses* include "prostate specific antigen tests" performed to determine the level of prostate specific antigen in the blood for a *member* who is at least fifty (50) years of age; and at least once annually for a *member* who is less than fifty (50) years of age and who is at high risk for prostate cancer according to the most recent published guidelines of the American Cancer Society.

## Radiology, Imaging and Other Diagnostic Testing

*Medically necessary* radiology services, imaging and tests performed for diagnostic reasons are a *covered service* (e.g., X-ray, MRI, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computed Tomography (CAT scan), Positron Emission Tomography (PET scan), mammogram, and ultrasound imaging). *Prior authorization* may be required, see the *Schedule of Benefits* for details. Note: Depending on the service performed, two bills may be incurred - both subject to any applicable *cost sharing* - one for the technical component (the procedure itself) and another for the professional component (the reading/interpretation of the results by a *physician* or other qualified practitioner).

## Second Medical Opinion

*Members* are entitled to a second *medical* opinion under the following conditions:

1. Whenever a minor *surgical procedure* is recommended to confirm the need for the procedure;
2. Whenever a serious *injury* or *illness* exists; or
3. Whenever you find that you are not responding to the current treatment plan in a satisfactory manner.

If requested, the second opinion consultation is to be provided by a *physician* of the *member's* choice. The *member* may select a *network provider* listed in the Healthcare Provider Directory. If a *member* chooses a *network provider*, he or she will only be responsible for the applicable *copayment amount* for the consultation. Any lab tests and/or diagnostic and therapeutic services are subject to the additional *cost-sharing*.

## Sleep Studies

Sleep studies are covered when determined to be *medically necessary*; *prior authorization* may be required. Note: A sleep study can be performed either at home or in a facility.

## Social Determinants of Health Supplemental Benefits

*Social determinants of health* supplemental benefits and services may be offered to *members* to remove barriers to accessing health services and improve overall health outcomes. These are benefits and services that we may make available in connection with this *policy*. The benefits and services provided may include transportation to health services, assistance with childcare, access to healthy meals, and other relevant services based on need. The benefits are available as long as coverage remains active, unless changed by us. Upon termination of coverage, the benefits are no longer available. All *members* are eligible for the benefits upon obtaining coverage. The services are optional, and the benefits are made available at no additional cost to the *members*. The benefits and services available at any given time are made part of this *policy* by

reference and are subject to change by us through an update to information available on our website or by contacting us.

*Social determinants of health* benefits and services may be offered to *members* through the “My Health Pays” wellness program and through our website. *Members* may receive notifications about available benefits and services through emails and/ or through the “My Health Pays” notification system. To inquire about these benefits and services or other benefits and services or the benefits available, you may visit our website at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com) or by contacting Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711).

## Transplant Expense Benefits

*Covered services* for transplant service expenses:

Transplants are a *covered service* when a *member* is accepted as a transplant candidate and pre-authorized in accordance with this *policy*. *Prior authorization* must be obtained through the “Center of Excellence”, before an evaluation for a transplant. We may require additional information such as testing and/or treatment before determining *medical necessity* for the transplant benefit. *Authorization* must be obtained prior to performing any related services to the transplant *surgery*. Transplant services must meet *medical* criteria as set by Medical Management Policy.

*Cost share* benefit coverage related to transplant services is available to both the recipient and donor of a covered transplant as follows:

1. If both the donor and recipient have coverage provided by the same insurer each will have their benefits paid by their own coverage program.
2. If you are the recipient of the transplant, and the donor for the transplant has no coverage from any other source, the benefits under this contract will be provided for both you and the donor. In this case, payments made for the donor will be charged against *member's* benefits.
3. If you are the donor for the transplant and no coverage is available to you from any other source, the benefits under this contract will be provided for you. However, no benefits will be provided for the recipient.
4. If lapse in coverage due to non-payment of premium, no services related to transplants will be paid as a *covered service*.

If we determine that a *member and donor* are an appropriate candidate for a *medically necessary* transplant, live donation, *covered service expenses* will be provided for:

1. Pre-transplant evaluation.
2. Pre-transplant harvesting of the organ from the donor.
3. Left Ventricular Assist Devices (LVAD) (only when used as a bridge to a heart transplant).
4. Including outpatient *covered services* related to the transplant *surgery*, pre-transplant laboratory testing and treatment; such as high dose chemotherapy, peripheral stem cell collection, and other immunosuppressive drug therapy, etc.
5. Pre-transplant stabilization, meaning an *inpatient stay* to *medically stabilization* to prepare for a later transplant, whether or not the transplant occurs.
6. The transplant itself, including the acquisition cost for the organ or bone marrow when *authorized* through the *Center of Excellence* and services are performed at participating facility.
7. Post-transplant follow-up visits and treatments.
8. Transplant benefit expenses include services related to donor search and acceptability testing of potential live donors.
9. All costs incurred and *medical* expenses by the donor; shall be paid under the transplant recipient policy, this excludes travel, lodging, food, and mileage. Please refer to the “Member Transplant

Travel Reimbursement Policy" for outlined details on reimbursement limitations at <https://ambettermeridian.com/resources/handbooks-forms.html>.

These *medical* expenses are covered to the extent that the benefits remain and are available under the *member's policy*, after benefits for the *member's* own expenses have been paid. In the event of such coverage, the otherwise existing coverage of a live donor shall be secondary to benefits under the *member's policy*.

Ancillary "Center Of Excellence" Service Benefits:

A *member* may obtain services in connection with a transplant from any *physician*. However, if a transplant is performed in a *Center of Excellence*:

1. We will pay for the following services when the *member* is required to travel more than 75 miles from the *residence* to the *Center of Excellence*:
2. We will pay a maximum of \$10,000 per transplant service for the following services:
  - a. Transportation for the *member*, any live donor, and the *immediate family* to accompany to and from the *Center of Excellence*, in the United States.
  - b. When *member* and/or donor is utilizing their personal transportation vehicle; a mileage log is required for reimbursement.
  - c. Maximum reimbursement for mileage is limited to travel to and from the *member's* home to the transplant facility, and to and from the donor's home to the transplant facility, and will be reimbursed at the current IRS mileage standard for miles driven for *medical* purposes.
  - d. Lodging at or near the *Center of Excellence* for any live donor and the *immediate family* accompanying the *member* while the *member* is confined in the *Center of Excellence* in the United States. We will reimburse *members* for the proof of costs directly related for transportation, lodging and any of the following approved items listed in the *member* transplant reimbursement guidelines. However, you must make the arrangements and provide the necessary paid receipts for reimbursement within six months of the date of service in order to be reimbursed.
  - e. Incurred costs related to a certified/registered service animal for the transplant *member* and/or donor.
  - f. Please refer to the member resources page for *member* reimbursement transplant travel forms and information at [ambettermeridian.com](https://ambettermeridian.com).

**Non-Covered Services and Exclusions**

No benefits will be provided or paid under these Transplant Service Expense Benefits:

1. For a prophylactic bone marrow harvest or peripheral blood stem cell collection when no transplant occurs.
2. For animal to human transplants.
3. For procurement or transportation of the organ or tissue, unless expressly provided for in this provision through the *Center of Excellence*.
4. To keep a donor alive for the transplant operation, except when *authorized* through the *Center of Excellence*.
5. For a live donor where the live donor is receiving a transplanted organ to replace the donated organ.
6. Related to transplants *unauthorized* though the *Center of Excellence* and is not included under this provision as a transplant.

7. For a transplant under study in an ongoing phase I or II clinical trial as set forth in the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulation, regardless of whether the trial is subject to United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) oversight.
8. The acquisition cost for the organ or bone marrow, when provided at an *unauthorized* facility or not obtained through the *Center of Excellence*.
9. For any transplant services and/or travel related expenses for *member* and donor, when preformed outside of the United States.
10. The following ancillary items listed below, will not be subject to *member* reimbursement under this *policy*:
  - a. Alcohol/tobacco
  - b. Car Rental (unless pre-approved by *case management*)
  - c. Vehicle Maintenance for motorized and hybrid, and electric car (includes: any repairs/parts, labor, general maintenance, towing, roadside assistance, etc.)
  - d. Parking, such as but not limited to hotel, valet or any offsite parking other than *hospital*.
  - e. Storage rental units, temporary housing incurring rent/mortgage payments.
  - f. Utilities, such as gas, water, electric, housekeeping services, lawn maintenance, etc.
  - g. Speeding tickets
  - h. Entertainment (e.g., movies, visits to museums, additional mileage for sightseeing, etc.)
  - i. For any services related to pet care, boarding, lodging, food, and/or travel expenses; other than those related to certified/registered service animal(s).
  - j. Expenses for persons other than the patient and his/her covered companion
  - k. Expenses for lodging when *member* is staying with a relative
  - l. Any expense not supported by a receipt
  - m. Upgrades to first class travel (air, bus, and train)
  - n. Personal care items (e.g., shampoo, deodorant, clothes)
  - o. Luggage or travel related items including passport/passport card, REAL ID travel ids, travel insurance, TSA pre-check, and early check-in boarding fees, extra baggage fees.
  - p. Souvenirs (e.g., t-shirts, sweatshirts, toys)
  - q. Telephone calls/mobile bills, replacement parts, or cellular purchases of any type.
  - r. All other items not described in the *policy* as *eligible expenses*
  - s. Any fuel costs / charging station fees for electric cars.

#### Organ Transplant Medication Notification:

At least 60 days prior to making any *formulary* change that alters the terms of coverage for a patient receiving *immunosuppressant drugs* or discontinues coverage for a prescribed immunosuppressant drug that a patient is receiving, we must, to the extent possible, notify the prescribing *physician* and the patient, or the parent or guardian if the patient is a child, or the *spouse* of a patient who is *authorized* to consent to the treatment of the patient. The notification will be in writing and will disclose the *formulary* change, indicate that the prescribing *physician* may initiate an *appeal*, and include information regarding the procedure for the prescribing *physician* to initiate the *policy's appeal* process.

As an alternative to providing written notice, we may provide the notice electronically if, and only if, the patient affirmatively elects to receive such notice electronically. The notification shall disclose the *formulary* change, indicate that the prescribing *physician* may initiate an *appeal*, and include information regarding the procedure for the prescribing *physician* to initiate the *policy's appeal* process.

At the time a patient requests a refill of the immunosuppressant drug, we may provide the patient with the written notification required above along with a 60-day supply of the immunosuppressant drug under the same terms as previously allowed.

## Urgent Care

Urgent Care services include *medically necessary* services by *network providers* and services provided at a *network urgent care center* including facility costs and supplies. Care that is needed after a *primary care physician's* normal business hours is also considered to be urgent care. Your *zero cost sharing* preventive care benefits may not be used at an *urgent care center*.

*Members* are encouraged to contact their *primary care physician* for an appointment before seeking care from another *provider*, but contracted *urgent care centers* and walk in clinics can be used when an urgent appointment is not available. If the *primary care physician* is not available and the condition persists, call the 24/7 Nurse Advice Line, at 1-833-993-2426. The 24/7 Nurse Advice Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A registered nurse can help you decide the kind of care most appropriate for your specific need.

## Wellness Program Benefits

Benefits may be available to *members* for participating in certain programs that we make available in connection with this *policy*. Such programs may include wellness programs and disease or *care management* programs. These programs may include a reward or an incentive, which you may earn by completing different activities.

If you have a *medical* condition that may prohibit you from participating in these programs, we may require you to provide verification, such as an affirming statement from your *physician*, that your *medical* condition makes it unreasonably difficult or inadvisable to participate in the wellness or health improvement program, in order for you to receive the reward or incentive.

You may obtain information regarding the particular programs available at any given time by visiting our website at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com) or by contacting Member Services by telephone at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711). The benefits are available as long as coverage remains active, unless changed by us as described in the programs' terms and conditions. Upon termination of coverage, program benefits are no longer available. All *members* are automatically eligible for program benefits upon obtaining coverage. The programs are optional, and the benefits are made available at no additional cost to the *members*. The programs and benefits available at any given time are made part of this *policy* by this reference and are subject to change by us through updates available on our website or by contacting us.

## Care Management Programs

We understand special health needs and are prepared to help you manage any that you may have. Our *Care Management* services can help with complex *medical* or *behavioral health* needs. If you qualify for *Care Management*, we will partner you with a care manager. Care managers are registered nurses or social workers that are specially trained to help you:

1. Better understand and manage your health conditions
2. Coordinate services
3. Locate community resources

Your care manager will work with you and your doctor to help you get the care you need. If you have a severe *medical* condition, your care manager will work with you, your *primary care physician (PCP)* and other *providers* to develop a care plan that meets your needs and your caregiver's needs.

If you think you could benefit from our *Care Management* program, please call Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711).



# General Non-Covered Services and Exclusions

No benefits will be provided or paid for:

1. Any service or supply that would be provided without cost to the *member* in the absence of insurance covering the charge.
2. Expenses, fees, taxes, or surcharges imposed on the *member* by a *provider* (including a *hospital*) but that are actually the responsibility of the *provider* to pay.
3. Any services performed by a *member* of the *member's immediate family*.
4. Any services not identified and included as *covered service expenses* under the *policy*. You will be fully responsible for payment for any services that are not *covered service expenses*.
5. Any services where other coverage is primary to Ambetter must be first paid by the primary payor prior to consideration for coverage under Ambetter.
6. Any non-*medically necessary* court ordered care for a *medical /surgical* or mental health/*substance use disorder* diagnosis, unless required by state law.

Even if not specifically excluded by this *policy*, no benefit will be paid for a service or supply unless it is:

1. Administered or ordered by a *physician*; and
2. *Medically necessary* to the diagnosis or treatment of an *injury* or *illness*, or covered under the Preventive Care Expense Benefits provision.

*Covered service expenses* will not include, and no benefits will be provided or paid for any charges that are incurred:

1. For services or supplies that are provided prior to the *effective date* or after the termination date of this *policy*.
2. For any portion of the charges that are in excess of the *eligible expense*.
3. For the reversal of sterilization and the reversal of vasectomies.
4. For non-therapeutic abortion.
5. For treatment of malocclusions disorders of the temporomandibular joint, or craniomandibular disorders, except as described in *covered service expenses* of the Major Medical Expense Benefits provision.
6. For expenses for television, telephone, or expenses for other persons.
7. For marriage, family, or child counseling for the treatment of premarital, marriage, family, or child relationship dysfunctions.
8. For telephone consultations between providers, except those meeting the definition of *Telehealth services*, or for failure to keep a scheduled appointment.
9. For stand-by availability of a *medical practitioner* when no treatment is rendered.
10. For accidental *dental service* expenses, including braces for any *medical* or dental condition, *surgery* and treatment for oral *surgery*, except as expressly provided for under Major Medical Expense Benefits.
11. For *cosmetic treatment*, except for *reconstructive surgery* that is incidental to or follows *surgery* or an *injury* that was covered under the *policy* or is performed to correct a birth defect in a.
12. For Mental health exams and services involving:
  - a) Services for psychological testing associated with the evaluation and diagnosis of learning disabilities;
  - b) Pre-marital counseling;
  - c) When ordered by the court, to be used in a court proceeding, or as a condition of parole or probation, unless a plan physician determines such Services to be *medically necessary*.
  - d) Testing of aptitude, ability, intelligence or interest; and

- e) Evaluation for the purpose of maintaining employment. Benefits will be allowed for services that would otherwise be covered under this *policy*.
  - f) Evaluations for any purpose other than mental health treatment. This includes evaluations for: child custody; disability; or fitness for duty/return to work, unless a plan physician determines such evaluation to be medically necessary.
  - g) Services which are custodial in nature.
13. For charges related to, or in preparation for, tissue or organ transplants, except as expressly provided for under the Transplant Service Expense Benefits.
  14. For high dose chemotherapy prior to, in conjunction with, or supported by *ABMT/BMT*, except as specifically provided under the Transplant Service Expense Benefits.
  15. For eye refractive *surgery*, when the primary purpose is to correct nearsightedness, farsightedness, or astigmatism.
  16. While confined primarily to receive *rehabilitation, custodial care*, educational care, or nursing services (unless expressly provided for in this *policy*).
  17. For vocational or recreational therapy, vocational *rehabilitation*, outpatient speech therapy, or occupational therapy, except as expressly provided for in this *policy*.
  18. For eyeglasses, contact lenses, eye refraction, visual therapy, or for any examination or fitting related to these devices, except as expressly provided in this *policy*.
  19. For hearing aids.
  20. For *experimental* or *investigational treatment(s)* or *unproven services*. The fact that an *experimental* or *investigational treatment* or *unproven service* is the only available treatment for a particular condition will not result in benefits if the procedure is considered to be an *experimental* or *investigational treatment* or *unproven service* for the treatment of that particular condition.
  21. As a result of an *injury* or *illness* arising out of, or in the course of, employment for wage or profit, if the *member* is insured, or is required to be insured, by workers' compensation insurance pursuant to applicable state or federal law. If you enter into a settlement that waives a *member's* right to recover future *medical* benefits under a workers' compensation law or insurance plan, this exclusion will still apply. In the event that the workers' compensation insurance carrier denies coverage for a *member's* workers' compensation claim, this exclusion will still apply unless that denial is appealed to the proper governmental agency and the denial is upheld by that agency.
  22. For fetal reduction *surgery*.
  23. Except as specifically identified as a *covered service expense* under the *policy*, services or expenses for alternative treatments, including acupressure, acupuncture, aroma therapy, hypnotism, massage therapy, rolfing, and other forms of alternative treatment as defined by the Office of Alternative Medicine of the National Institutes of Health.
  24. For *prescription drugs* for any *member* who enrolls in Medicare Part D as of the date of his or her enrollment in Medicare Part D. *Prescription drug* coverage may not be reinstated at a later date.
  25. For the following miscellaneous items: artificial insemination (except where required by federal or state law); blood and blood products; care or complications resulting from *non-covered services*; chelating agents; domiciliary care; food and food supplements, except for what is indicated in the Medical Foods section; health club memberships, unless otherwise covered; home test kits; care or services provided to a *non-member* biological parent; nutrition or dietary supplements; pre-marital lab work; processing fees; private duty nursing; *rehabilitation services* for the enhancement of job, athletic, or recreational performance; routine or elective care outside the *service area*; treatment of spider veins; transportation expenses, unless specifically described in this *policy*.
  26. For any medicinal and recreational use of cannabis or marijuana.
  27. *Surrogacy Arrangement*. Health care services, including supplies and medication, to a *surrogate*, including a *member* acting as a *surrogate* or utilizing the services of a *surrogate* who may or may

not be a *member*, and any child born as a result of a *surrogacy arrangement*. This exclusion applies to all health care services, supplies and medication to a *surrogate* including but not limited to:

- a. Prenatal care;
- b. Intrapartum care (or care provided during delivery and childbirth);
- c. Postpartum care (or care for the *surrogate* following childbirth);
- d. Mental Health Services related to the *surrogacy arrangement*;
- e. Expenses relating to donor semen, including collection and preparation for implantation;
- f. Donor gamete or embryos or storage of same relating to a *surrogacy arrangement*;
- g. Use of frozen gamete or embryos to achieve future conception in a *surrogacy arrangement*;
- h. Preimplantation genetic diagnosis relating to a *surrogacy arrangement*;
- i. Any Complications of the child or *surrogate* resulting from the *pregnancy*; or
- j. Any other health care services, supplies and medication relating to a *surrogacy arrangement*.

Any and all health care services, supplies or medication provided to any child birthed by a *surrogate* as a result of a *surrogacy arrangement* are also excluded, except where the child is the adoptive child of insureds possessing an active *policy* with us and/or the child possesses an active *policy* with us at the time of birth.

28. Diagnostic testing, laboratory procedures screenings, or examinations performed for the purpose of obtaining, maintaining, or monitoring employment.
29. For court ordered testing or care unless *medically necessary*.
30. For any claim submitted by non-lock-in pharmacy while *member* is in lock-in status. To facilitate appropriate benefit use and prevent opioid overutilization, *member's* participation in lock-in status will be determined by review of pharmacy claims.
31. For a *member's illness* or *injury* which is caused by the acts or omissions of a *third party*, we will exercise our subrogation rights to the extent that it is paid as part of a settlement or judgment by any *third party*.
32. For all health care services obtained at an urgent care facility that is a *non-network provider*.
33. Immunizations that are not *medically necessary* or medically indicated. This includes those used for travel and occupational.
34. For expenses, services, and treatments from a massage therapist to touch and manipulate the muscles and other soft tissues of the body.
35. For expenses, services, and treatments from a Naprapathic specialist for conditions caused by contracted, injured, spasmed, bruised, and/or otherwise affected myofascial or connective tissue.
36. For expenses, services, and treatments from a Naturopathic specialist for treatment of prevention, self-healing and use of natural therapies.
37. For expenses, services, and treatments related to private duty nursing in an *inpatient*, outpatient or home location.
38. For expenses, services and treatments related to acupuncture.
39. For expenses for services related to dry needling.

### **Limitations on Benefits for Services Provided by Medicare Opt-Out Practitioners**

Benefits for *covered service expenses* incurred by a Medicare-eligible individual for services and supplies provided by a *Medicare opt-out practitioner* will be determined as if the services and supplies had been provided by a *Medicare participating practitioner*. (Benefits will be determined as if Medicare had, in fact, paid the benefits it would have paid if the services and supplies had been provided by a *Medicare participating practitioner*.)

# Termination

## Termination of Policy

All coverage will cease on termination of this *policy*. This *policy* will terminate on the earliest of:

1. Nonpayment of premiums when due, subject to the Grace Period provision in this *policy*;
2. The date we receive a request from you to terminate this *policy*, or any later date stated in your request;
3. The date we decline to renew this *policy*, as stated in the Discontinuance provision;
4. The date of your death, if this *policy* is an Individual Plan; or
5. The date a *member's* eligibility for coverage under this *policy* ceases due to any of the reasons stated in the Ongoing Eligibility section in this *policy*.

We will send you notification of termination, which will include the reason for termination, 30 days prior to ending coverage.

## Refund upon Cancellation

We will refund any premium paid and not earned due to *policy* termination. You may cancel the *policy* at any time by providing written notice to us. Such cancellation shall become effective upon receipt, or on such later date specified in the notice. If you cancel, we shall promptly return any unearned portion of the premium paid, but in any event shall return the unearned portion of the premium within 30 days. The earned premium shall be computed on a pro-rata basis. Cancellation shall be without prejudice to any claim originating prior to the *effective date* of the cancellation.

## Reinstatement

We will reinstate a *policy* when it is erroneously terminated or cancelled. The reinstatement will result in restoration of the enrollment with no break in coverage.

## Discontinuance

90-Day Notice: If we discontinue offering all policies issued on this form, for all residents of the state where you reside, we will provide a written notice to you at least 90 days prior to the date that we discontinue coverage. You will be offered an option to purchase any other coverage in the individual market we offer in your state at the time of discontinuance of this *policy*. This option to purchase other coverage will be on a guaranteed issue basis without regard to health status.

180-Day Notice: If we discontinue offering and refuse to renew all individual policies in the individual market in the state where you reside, we will provide a written notice to you and the Commissioner of Insurance at least 180 days prior to the date that we stop offering and terminate all existing individual policies in the individual market in the state where you reside.

## Right of Reimbursement

As used herein, the term “*third party*” means any party that is, or may be, or is claimed to be responsible for *injuries* or *illness* to a *member*. Such *injuries* or *illness* are referred to as “*third party injuries*.” “Responsible party” includes any parties actually, possibly or potentially responsible for payment of expenses associated with the care or treatment of *third party* injuries.

If this plan provides benefits under this *policy* to a *member* for expenses incurred due to *third party* injuries, then Ambetter from Meridian retains the right to repayment of the full cost of all benefits provided by this plan on behalf of the *member* that are associated with the *third party* injuries. Ambetter from Meridian’s rights of recovery apply to any recoveries made by or on behalf of the *member* from any source, including but not limited to:

- Payments made by a *third party* or any insurance company on behalf of the *third party*;
- Any payments or awards under an uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage policy;
- Any Workers’ Compensation or disability award or settlement;
- Medical payments coverage under any automobile policy, premises or homeowners *medical* payments coverage or premises or homeowners insurance coverage; and
- Any other payments from a source intended to compensate a *member* for *third party* injuries.

By accepting benefits under this plan, the *member* specifically acknowledges Ambetter from Meridian’s right of recovery. When this plan provides health care benefits for expenses incurred due to *third party* injuries, Ambetter from Meridian shall be included in the *member*’s rights of recovery against any party to the extent of the full cost of all benefits provided by this plan. Ambetter from Meridian may proceed against any party with or without the *member*’s consent.

By accepting benefits under this plan, the *member* also specifically acknowledges Ambetter from Meridian’s right of reimbursement. This right of reimbursement attaches when this plan has provided health care benefits for expenses incurred due to *third party* injuries and the *member* or the *member*’s representative has recovered any amounts from any source. Ambetter from Meridian’s right of reimbursement is cumulative with and not exclusive of Ambetter from Meridian’s right of recovery and Ambetter from Meridian may choose to exercise either or both rights of recovery.

As a condition for our payment, the *member* or anyone acting on his or her behalf (including, but not limited to, the guardian, legal representatives, estate, or heirs) agrees:

1. To fully cooperate with us in order to obtain information about the *loss* and its cause.
2. To immediately inform us in writing of any claim made or lawsuit filed on behalf of a *member* in connection with the *loss*.
3. To include the amount of benefits paid by us on behalf of a *member* in any claim made against any *third party*.
4. To give Ambetter from Meridian a first-priority lien on any recovery, settlement or judgment or other sources of compensation which may be had from any party to the extent of the full cost of all benefits associated with *third party* injuries provided by this plan (regardless of whether specifically set forth in the recovery, settlement, judgment or compensation agreement).
5. To pay, as the first priority, from any recovery, settlement, judgment, or other source of compensation, any and all amounts due Ambetter from Meridian as reimbursement for the full cost of all benefits associated with *third party* injuries provided by this plan (regardless of whether specifically set forth in the recovery, settlement, judgment, or compensation agreement).

6. That we:
  - a. Will have a lien on all money received by a *member* in connection with the *loss* equal to the benefit amount we have provided or paid.
  - b. May give notice of that lien to any *third party* or *third party's* agent or representative.
  - c. Will have the right to intervene in any suit or legal action to protect our rights.
  - d. Are entitled to all of the rights of the *member* against any *third party* to the extent of the benefits paid on the *member's* behalf.
  - e. May assert the right of reimbursement independently of the *member*.
7. To take no action that prejudices our reimbursement rights. This includes, but is not limited to, refraining from making any settlement or recovery which specifically attempts to reduce or exclude the full cost of all benefits provided by this plan.
8. To sign, date, and deliver to us any documents we request that protect our reimbursement rights.
9. To not settle any claim or lawsuit against a *third party* without providing us with written notice of the intent to do so.
10. To reimburse us from any money received from any *third party*, to the extent of benefits we paid for the *illness* or *injury*, whether obtained by settlement, judgment, or otherwise, and whether or not the *third party's* payment is expressly designated as a payment for *medical* expenses.
11. That we may reduce other benefits under the *policy* by the amounts a *member* has agreed to reimburse us.

We have the right to be reimbursed in full regardless of whether or not the *member* is fully compensated by any recovery received from any *third party* settlement, judgment, or otherwise.

We will not pay attorney fees or costs associated with the *member's* claim or lawsuit. In the event you or your representative fail to cooperate with Ambetter from Meridian, you shall be responsible for all benefits paid by this plan in addition to costs and attorney's fees incurred by Ambetter from Meridian in obtaining repayment.

If a dispute arises as to the amount a *member* must reimburse us, the *member* (or the guardian, legal representatives, estate, or heirs of the *member*) agrees to place sufficient funds in an escrow or trust account to satisfy the maximum lien amount asserted by us until the dispute is resolved.

# Coordination of Benefits

We coordinates benefits with other payers when a *member* is covered by two or more group health benefit plans. Coordination of Benefits (COB) is the industry standard practice used to share the cost of care between two or more carriers when a *member* is covered by more than one health benefit plan.

It is a contractual provision of a majority of health benefit policies. Ambetter complies with Federal and state regulations for COB and follows COB guidelines published by National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC).

Under COB, the benefits of one plan are determined to be primary and are first applied to the cost of care. After considering what has been covered by the primary plan, the secondary plan may cover the cost of care up to the fully allowed expense according to the plan's payment guidelines. Ambetter Claims COB and Recovery Unit procedures are designed to avoid payment in excess of allowable expense while also making sure claims are processed both accurately and timely.

"Allowable expense" is the necessary, reasonable, and customary item of expense for health care, when the item is covered at least in part under any of the plans involved, except where a statute requires a different definition. When a plan provides benefits in the form of services, the reasonable cash value of each service will be considered as both an allowable expense and a benefit paid.

"Plan", as used in this section, is a form of coverage written on an expense-incurred basis with which coordination is allowed.

The term "Plan" includes:

1. Group health insurance benefits and group blanket or group remittance health benefits coverage, whether uninsured arrangements of group coverage, insured, self-insured, or self-funded. This includes group HMO insurance and other prepayment, group practice and individual practice plans, and blanket contracts, except as excluded below.
2. Plan includes *medical* benefits coverage, in group and individual automobile "no-fault" and traditional liability "fault" type contracts.
3. Plan includes *hospital, medical, and surgical* benefits coverage of Medicare or a governmental plan offered, required, or provided by law, except Medicaid.
4. Plan does not include blanket school accident coverage or coverages issued to a substantially similar group (e.g., Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts) where the school or organization pays the premiums.
5. Plan does not include Individual or Family: Insurance contracts, direct payment subscriber contracts, coverage through health maintenance organizations (HMO's) or coverage under other prepayment, group practice and individual practice plans.
6. Plan whose benefits are by law excess to any private benefits coverage.

"Primary plan" is one whose benefits must be determined without taking the existence of any *other plan* into consideration. A plan is primary if either:

1. The plan has no order of benefits rules or its rules differ from those required by regulation; or
2. All plans which cover the person use the order of benefits rules required by regulation and under those rules the plan determines its benefits first. More than one plan may be a primary plan (for example, two plans which have no order of benefit determination rules).

"Secondary plan" is one which is not a primary plan. If a person is covered by more than one secondary

plan, the order of benefit determination rules decide the order in which their benefits are determined in relation to each other.

### **Order of Benefit Determination Rules**

The first of the rules listed below in paragraphs 1-6 that applies will determine which plan will be primary:

1. The primary plan pays or provides its benefits as if the secondary plan or plans did not exist. A Plan may consider benefits paid or provided by another plan in determining its benefits only when it is secondary to that *other plan*.
2. If the *other plan* does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with this provision is always primary. There are two exceptions:
  - a. Coverage that is obtained by virtue of membership in a group that is designed to supplement a part of a basic package of benefits may provide that the supplementary coverage shall be excess to any other parts of the plan provided by the policyholder, and
  - b. Any noncontributory group or blanket insurance coverage which is in force on January 1, 1987, which provides excess major *medical* benefits intended to supplement any basic benefits on a *member* may continue to be excess to such basic benefits.

The first of the following rules that describes which Plan pays its benefits before another Plan is the rule to use.

3. If the person receiving benefits is the *member* and is only covered as an *eligible dependent member* under the *other plan*, this *policy* will be primary.
4. Subject to State Statutes: Social Security Act of 1965, as amended makes Medicare secondary to the plan covering the person as a dependent of an active employee, the order of benefit determination is:
  - a. If a child is covered under the plans of both parents and the parents are not separated or divorced, the plan of the parent whose birthday falls earlier in the year (excluding year of birth) shall be primary.
  - b. If both parents have the same birthday, the plan which covered the parent longer will be primary. To determine whose birthday falls earlier in the year, only the month and day are considered. However, if the *other plan* does not have this birthday rule, but instead has a rule based on the sex of the parent and as a result the plans do not agree on which is primary, then the rule in the *other plan* will determine which plan is primary.
5. If a child is covered by both parents' plans, the parents are separated or divorced, and there is no court decree between the parents that establishes financial responsibility for the child's health care expenses:
  - a. The plan of the parent who has custody will be primary.
  - b. If the parent with custody has remarried, and the child is also covered as a child under the step-parent's plan, the plan of the parent with custody will pay first, the step-parent's plan will pay second, and the plan of the parent without custody will pay third.
  - c. If a court decree between the parents says which parent is responsible for the child's health care expenses, then that parent's plan will be primary if that plan has actual knowledge of the decree.
6. If the person receiving services is covered under one plan as an active employee or *member* (i.e., not laid-off or retired), or as the *spouse* or child of such an active employee, and is also covered under another plan as a laid-off or retired employee or as the *spouse* or child of such a laid-off or retired employee, the plan that covers such person as an active employee or *spouse* or child of an active employee will be primary. If the *other plan* does not have this rule, and as a result the plans do not agree on which will be primary, this rule will be ignored.
7. If none of the above rules determine which plan is primary, the plan that covered the person receiving services longer will be primary.



**Effects of Coordination**

When this plan is secondary, its benefits will be reduced so that the total benefits paid by the primary plan and this plan during a claim determination period will not exceed Ambetter's maximum available benefit for each *covered service*. Also, the amount Ambetter pays will not be more than the amount Ambetter would pay if Ambetter were primary. As each claim is submitted, Ambetter will determine its obligation to pay for allowable expenses based upon all claims that have been submitted up to that point in time during the claim determination period.

**Right to Receive and Release Needed Information**

Certain facts about health care coverage and services are needed to apply these COB rules and to determine benefits payable under this plan and *other plans*. We may get the facts we need from, or give them to, other organizations or persons for the purpose of applying these rules and determining benefits payable under this plan and *other plans* covering the person claiming benefits. We need not tell or get the consent of any person to do this.

# Claims

## Notice of Claim

We must receive notice of claim within 30 days of the date the *loss* began or as soon as reasonably possible.

## Proof of Loss

We must receive written *proof of loss* within 90 days of the *loss* or as soon as is reasonably possible. *Proof of loss* furnished more than one year late will not be accepted, unless you or your covered *dependent member* had no legal capacity to submit such proof during that year.

## How to Submit a Claim

*Providers* will typically submit claims on your behalf, but sometimes you may need to submit claims yourself for *covered services*. This usually happens if:

1. Your *provider* is not contracted with us
2. You have an out-of-area *emergency*

If you have paid for services we agreed to cover, you can request reimbursement for the amount you paid. We can adjust your *deductible*, *copayment* or *cost sharing* to reimburse you.

To request reimbursement for a *covered service*, you need a copy of the detailed claim from your provider. You will also need to submit a copy of the *member* reimbursement claim form posted at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com) under "For Members – Forms and Materials". Send all the documentation to us at the following address:

Ambetter from Meridian  
Attn: Claims Department  
P.O. Box 5010  
Farmington, MO 63640-5010

## Cooperation Provision

Each *member*, or other person acting on his or her behalf, must cooperate fully to assist us in determining our rights and obligations under the *policy* and as often as may be reasonably necessary:

1. Sign, date, and deliver to us *authorizations* to obtain any *medical* or other information, records or documents we deem relevant from any person or entity.
2. Obtain and furnish to us, or our representatives, any *medical* or other information, records or documents we deem relevant.
3. Answer, under oath or otherwise, any questions we deem relevant, which we or our representatives may ask.
4. Furnish any other information, aid or assistance that we may require, including without limitation, assistance in communicating with any person or entity (including requesting any person or entity to promptly provide to us, or our representative, any information, records or documents requested by us).

If any *member*, or other person acting on his or her behalf, fails to provide any of the items or information requested or to take any action requested, the claim(s) will be closed and no further action will be taken by us unless and until the item or information requested is received or the requested action is taken, subject to the terms and conditions of the *policy*.

In addition, failure on the part of any *member*, or other person acting on his or her behalf, to provide any of the items or information requested or to take any action requested may result in the denial of the claim at issue to the *member*.

### **Time for Payment of Claims**

Benefits will be paid within 45 days for clean claims filed electronically or on paper. "Clean claims" means a claim submitted by you or a *provider* that has no defect, impropriety, or particular circumstance requiring special treatment preventing payment. If we have not received the information we need to process a claim, we will ask for the additional information necessary to complete the claim. You will receive a copy of that request for additional information. In those cases, we cannot complete the processing of the claim until the additional information requested has been received. We will make our request for additional information within 20 days of our initial receipt of the claim and will complete our processing of the claim within 30 days after our receipt of all requested information.

### **Payment of Claims**

Except as set forth in this provision, all benefits are payable to you. Any accrued benefits unpaid at your death, or your *dependent member's* death may, at our option, be paid either to the beneficiary or to the estate. If any benefit is payable to your or your *dependent member's* estate, or to a beneficiary who is a minor or is otherwise not competent to give valid release, we may pay up to \$1,000 to any relative who, in our opinion, is entitled to it.

We may pay all or any part of the benefits provided by this *policy* for *hospital, surgical, nursing, or medical* services, directly to the *hospital* or other person rendering such services.

Any payment made by us in good faith under this provision shall fully discharge our obligation to the extent of the payment. We reserve the right to deduct any overpayment made under this *policy* from any future benefits under this *policy*.

### **Foreign Claims Incurred For Emergency Care**

Medical *emergency* care is a *covered service* while traveling for up to a maximum of 90 consecutive days. If travel extends beyond 90 consecutive days, no benefit coverage is provided for *medical* emergencies for the entire period of travel including the first 90 days.

Claims incurred outside of the United States for *emergency* care and treatment of a *member* must be submitted in English or with an English translation, at the *member's* expense within 180 calendar days from the date of service. Foreign claims must include the applicable *medical* records in English or with an English translation, at the *member's* expense to show proper *proof of loss* and evidence of payment(s) to the *provider*.

Foreign claims must be submitted with the Member Reimbursement Medical Claim Form, along with all requested documents as detailed on the claim form. All forms and *member* resources are available at [ambettermeridian.com](http://ambettermeridian.com).

The amount of reimbursement will be based on the following:

- *Member's* Benefit Plan and *member* eligibility on date of service
- *Member's* Responsibility/Share of Cost based on date of service
- Currency Rate at the time of completed transaction, Foreign Country currency to United States currency.

Once the health plan has reviewed all the necessary documentation and the emergency claim has been processed, a *member* Explanation of Benefits (EOB) will be mailed. The EOB will identify *member* responsibility according to the *member* benefit plan at the time of travel. If services are deemed as a true *medical* emergency, *member* will be issued reimbursement payment for any eligible incurred costs, minus *member* cost share obligation.

**Assignment**

We will reimburse a *hospital* or health care *provider* if:

1. Your health coverage benefits are assigned by you in writing; and
2. We approve the assignment.

Any assignment to a *hospital* or person providing the treatment, whether with or without our *approval*, shall not confer upon such *hospital* or person, any right or privilege granted to you under the *policy* except for the right to receive benefits, if any, that we have determined to be due and payable.

**Medicaid Reimbursement**

The amount provided or payable under this *policy* will not be changed or limited for reason of a *member* being eligible for coverage under the Medicaid program of the state in which he or she lives.

We will pay the benefits of this *policy* to the state if:

1. A *member* is eligible for coverage under his or her state's Medicaid program; and
2. We receive proper *proof of loss* and notice that payment has been made for *covered service expenses* under that program.

Our payment to the state will be limited to the amount payable under this *policy* for the *covered service expenses* for which reimbursement is due. Payment under this provision will be made in good faith. It will satisfy our responsibility to the extent of that payment.

**Custodial Parent**

This provision applies if the parents of a covered *eligible child* are divorced or legally separated and both the custodial parent and the non-custodial parent are subject to the same court or administrative order establishing custody. The custodial parent, who is not a *member*, will have the rights stated below if we receive a copy of the order establishing custody.

Upon request by the custodial parent, we will:

1. Provide the custodial parent with information regarding the terms, conditions, benefits, exclusions, and limitations of the *policy*;
2. Accept claim forms and requests for claim payment from the custodial parent; and
3. Make claim payments directly to the custodial parent for claims submitted by the custodial parent. Payment of claims to the custodial parent, which are made under this provision, will fully discharge our obligations.

A custodial parent may, with our *approval*, assign claim payments to the *hospital* or *medical practitioner* providing treatment to an *eligible child*.

**Physical Examination**

We shall have the right and opportunity to examine a *member* while a claim is pending or while a dispute over the claim is pending. These examinations are made at our expense and as often as we may reasonably require.

**Legal Actions**

No suit may be brought by you on a claim sooner than 60 days after the required *proof of loss* is given. No suit may be brought more than three years after the date *proof of loss* is required.

# Appeal and Grievance Procedures

## Appeals

An *appeal* is a request for a review of a decision we made to deny, reduce, or terminate a requested service. These are known as *adverse benefit determinations*. You can *appeal* these decisions. You can designate a representative – such as a family *member*, friend, *physician*, or attorney - to *appeal* these decisions on your behalf.

### Filing an Appeal

When we make an *adverse benefit determination*, we will send you a notification that includes an *appeal* form and information on filing your *appeal* and how to authorize a representative. You have 180 days to file an *appeal* from the date we tell you of the *adverse benefit determination*.

You can file an *appeal* by filling out the form included with the denial notice and mailing or faxing it to us at:

**Ambetter from Meridian**  
**Attn: Appeals and Grievances**  
**PO Box 10341**  
**Van Nuys, CA 91410**  
**Fax: 1-833-886-7956**

Call us at 1-833-993-2426 if you have any questions regarding the process or how to file an *appeal*. We will get an interpreter or TTY services for you if you need them.

### Processing your Appeal

After you file your *appeal*, we will notify you of all the information that is needed to process the *appeal* within three days of receiving the *appeal*. You will be informed you can present any information that you wish for us to consider as part of the *appeal*.

We will investigate the *appeal* to decide if more information is needed from your *provider*.

You will have the right to appear in person/by telephone before a designated person or our Appeals Committee to present your *appeal*.

A *provider* of the same or similar specialty will review the request and make a determination. This *provider* will not be the *physician* involved in the original decision and who is not the subordinate of that *physician*.

We may extend our deadline by no more than ten business days if we do not get the information needed from a health facility or professional to make a decision. We will tell you the progress of the request if such an extension is necessary. If no extension is needed, we will make the decision not later than 30 calendar days after your formal preservice *appeal* is received or 60 calendar days after your formal post service *appeal* is received in writing. We will tell you and your *PCP* or other *provider* within five calendar days of the decision.

The notice will include an explanation of our decision, a reference to the criteria on which the decision was made, a list of the title and qualifications of each person participating in the review, and a description of your further *appeal* rights. Your further *appeal* rights include the right to an external review.

#### Expedited Appeal

You can file an expedited *appeal* when a requested service involves a situation that would seriously jeopardize your life or health or would jeopardize your ability to regain maximum function. This type of *appeal* must be supported by your *physician*.

You may request an expedited *appeal* at any time. You may start the *appeal* by phone or in writing. Our Appeal Coordinator will help you in file the *appeal*.

We will make a decision about the request within 72 hours. We will tell you and your *provider* the result.

#### **External Review**

You are told of your right to request a determination by the Director of Insurance and Financial Services or by an Independent Review Organization under the Patient's Right to Independent Review Act through the determination notices of appeals.

You must first exhaust your internal *appeal* rights before filing a request for an external review with Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) except in the case of an expedited request for external review (see below).

You must submit a request for external review within 127 days of an *adverse benefit determination*. When filing a request for an external review, you will be required to authorize the release of any *medical* records that may be required to be reviewed to reach a decision on the external review. The request for external review should be sent to the Director of DIFS at:

If by Mail:

**Office of General Counsel–Health Care Appeals Section  
Department of Insurance and Financial Services  
P.O. Box 30220  
Lansing, MI 48909-7720**

If by Delivery Service (UPS, FedEx):

**Office of General Counsel–Health Care Appeals Section  
Department of Insurance and Financial Services  
530 W. Allegan St., 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Lansing, MI 48933-1521**

**Toll Free Telephone: 1-877-999-6442  
Fax: 517-284-8838  
<https://difs.state.mi.us/Complaints/ExternalReview.aspx>**

The Director shall decide whether the request meets the requirements for an external review. If the request is about *medical necessity* or clinical review, the Director will assign the external review to an Independent Review Organization. If the request is about contractual issues with the health plan (whether or not a services is covered, etc.), the Director may review it internally or assign it to an Independent Review Organization as appropriate.

The Appeals Coordinator handles all communications with DIFS and/or the Independent Review Organization for the *appeal*. This includes sending of all required documentation.

#### Expedited External Review

You must request an expedited external review through DIFS within ten days after receiving an *adverse benefit determination* from us if the following conditions are met:

- Your *provider* supports that the standard timeframe for review of the *grievance/appeal* would seriously jeopardize your life or health or would jeopardize your ability to regain maximum function. This must be supported orally or in writing.
- You already filed a request for an expedited internal *appeal* with us.

DIFS forwards the request and all needed information to an assigned Independent Review Organization (IRO) if it determines the request is appropriate for an expedited external review. The IRO must return its recommendation no later than 36 hours after DIFS forwards the request. DIFS must provide its final decision no later than 24 hours after receiving the IRO's recommendation.

#### Grievances

A *grievance* is a *complaint* about anything other than an *adverse benefit determination*. A few examples of a *grievance* are:

- You cannot get an appointment with your *PCP* or another *network provider* in a timely manner.
- You cannot get a referral from your *PCP* in a timely manner.
- You have been denied any of your rights as a *member*.

#### Filing a Grievance

Your satisfaction is very important to us. We want you to tell us if you have a *grievance* or concern with your health care services. Call us at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711) and ask for the Grievance Coordinator. You are able to resolve the problem over the phone in most cases.

You have 90 calendar days from the event to file a *grievance* with us. You can also file a *grievance* in writing. Your *provider* or an *authorized* representative may file a *grievance* on your behalf in writing. Please include a phone number where we can call you for more information and to tell you the outcome. The address to file a *grievance* is:

**Ambetter from Meridian**  
**Attn: Appeals and Grievances**  
**PO Box 10341**  
**Van Nuys, CA 91410**  
**Fax: 1-833-886-7956**

#### Processing your Grievance

We will acknowledge your *grievance* verbally or by sending you a letter within five calendar days of receiving the *grievance*. Your *grievance* will be resolved within 30 calendar days. The results will be given to you by phone as well as in writing.

#### External Review of Grievances

You can submit a request for external review in writing to the Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) if you are unhappy with our resolution. This must be sent within 127 days of receipt of the final decision from our internal *grievance* process. Send your request for external review to the following address:

If by Mail:

**Office of General Counsel–Health Care Appeals Section**  
**Department of Insurance and Financial Services**  
**P.O. Box 30220**  
**Lansing, MI 48909-7720**

**Toll Free Telephone: 1-877-999-6442**  
**Fax: 517-284-8838**  
**<https://difs.state.mi.us/Complaints/ExternalReview.aspx>**

The Department of Insurance and Financial Services is available to assist insurance consumers with insurance related problems and questions. You may inquire in writing to the Director, Department of Insurance and Financial Services, 530 W. Allegan St., 7<sup>th</sup> floor, Lansing, Michigan 48933 or contact the Department at 1-877-999-6442.

#### Appeal and Grievance Filing and Key Communication Timelines

	Timely Filing	Acknowledgment	Resolution	Allowable Extension
Standard Grievance	90 Calendar Days	5 Calendar Days	30 Calendar Days	N/A
Standard Pre-Service Appeal	180 Calendar Days	3 Calendar Days	30 Calendar Days	10 Business Days
Expedited Pre-Service Appeal	180 Calendar Days	N/A	72 Hours	N/A
Standard Post-Service Appeal	180 Calendar Days	3 Calendar Days	60 Calendar Days	10 Business Days
External Review	127 Calendar Days	N/A	N/A	N/A
Expedited External Review	127 Calendar Days	N/A	N/A	N/A



# General Provisions

## Entire Policy

This *policy*, with the enrollment application, the *Schedule of Benefits*, and any amendments and/or riders, is the entire *policy* between you and us. No agent may:

1. Change this *policy*;
2. Waive any of the provisions of this *policy*;
3. Extend the time for payment of premiums; or
4. Waive any of our rights or requirements.

## Non-Waiver

If we or you fail to enforce or to insist on strict compliance with any of the terms, conditions, limitations or exclusions of the *policy* that will not be considered a waiver of any rights under the *policy*. A past failure to strictly enforce the *policy* will not be a waiver of any rights in the future, even in the same situation or set of facts.

## Rescissions

No misrepresentation of fact made regarding a *member* during the application process that relates to insurability will be used to void/rescind the coverage or deny a claim unless:

1. The misrepresented fact is contained in a written application, including amendments, signed by a *member*;
2. A copy of the application, and any amendments, has been furnished to the *member(s)*, or to their beneficiary; and
3. The misrepresentation of fact was intentionally made and material to our determination to issue coverage to any *member*. A *member's* coverage will be voided/rescinded and claims denied if that person performs an act or practice that constitutes fraud. "Rescind" has a retroactive effect and means the coverage was never in effect.

We will send you notification of *rescission* 30 days prior to rescinding coverage.

## Repayment for Fraud, Misrepresentation or False Information

During the first two years a *member* is covered under the *policy*, if a *member* commits fraud, misrepresentation or knowingly provides false information relating to the eligibility of any *member* under this *policy* or in filing a claim for *policy* benefits, we have the right to demand that *member* pay back to us all benefits that we provided or paid during the time the *member* was covered under the *policy*.

## Conformity with State Laws

Any part of this *policy* in conflict with *applicable laws* on this *policy's effective date* or on any premium due date is changed to conform to the minimum requirements of *applicable law*.

## Personal Health Information (PHI)

Your health information is personal. We are committed to do everything we can to protect it. Your privacy is also important to us. We have policies and procedures in place to protect your health records.

We protect all oral, written and electronic PHI. We follow Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements and have a Notice of Privacy Practices. We are required to notify you about these practices every year. This notice describes how your *medical* information may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully. If you need more information or would like the complete notice, please visit [ambettermeridian.com/privacy-practices](http://ambettermeridian.com/privacy-practices) or call Member Services at 1-833-993-2426 (Relay 711).

We protect all of your PHI. We follow HIPAA to keep your health care information private.

**Language**

If you do not speak or understand the language in your area, you have the right to an interpreter. For language assistance, please visit [ambettermeridian.com/language-assistance](https://ambettermeridian.com/language-assistance).

**Spanish:** Si usted, o alguien a quien está ayudando, tiene preguntas acerca de Ambetter de Meridian, tiene derecho a obtener ayuda e información en su idioma sin costo alguno. Para hablar con un intérprete, llame al 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**Arabic:** إذا كان لديك أو لدى شخص تساعد أسئلة حول Ambetter from Meridian ، لديك الحق في الحصول على المساعدة والمعلومات الضرورية بلغتك من دون أية تكلفة. للتحدث مع مترجم اتصل به 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**Chinese:** 如果您，或是您正在協助的對象，有關於Ambetter from Meridian 方面的問題，您有權利免費以您的母語得到幫助和訊息。如果要與一位翻譯員講話，請撥電話1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711)。

**Syriac:** ان التلخون خورنه ميقورى المساعدة يمصيرون متلقلتلن الدوا مشى Ambetter from Meridian بمصيونت ميقرونن المساعدة.. وخني لا شقلخ زوزة منوخن . ان التلخون بارا الاتي مندي .وان مترجم رقم تلخون 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**Vietnamese:** Nếu quý vị, hay người mà quý vị đang giúp đỡ, có câu hỏi về Ambetter from Meridian, quý vị sẽ có quyền được giúp và có thêm thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của mình miễn phí. Để nói chuyện với một thông dịch viên, xin gọi 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**Albanian:** Nëse ju, apo dikush që ju po ndihmoni, ka pyetje në lidhje me Ambetter from Meridian, ju keni të drejtë të merrni ndihmë dhe informacion në gjuhën tuaj pa asnjë kosto. Për të folur me anë të një përkthyesi, telefononi 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**Korean:** 만약 귀하 또는 귀하가 돕고 있는 어떤 사람이 Ambetter from Meridian 에 관해서 질문이 있다면 귀하는 그러한 도움과 정보를 귀하의 언어로 비용 부담없이 얻을 수 있는 권리가 있습니다. 그렇게 통역사와 얘기하기 위해서는 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711) 로 전화하십시오.

**Bengali:** যদি আপনার, বা আপনি সাহায্য করছেন এমন কোন ব্যক্তির Ambetter from Meridian নিয়ে কোন প্রশ্ন থাকে, তাহলে আপনার বিনামূল্যে সাহায্য পাবার ও আপনার ভাষায় সে ব্যাপারে তথ্য পরাপ্তির অধিকার রয়েছে। একজন দোভাষীর সঙ্গে কথা বলার জন্য 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711) নম্বরে কল করুন।

**Polish:** Jeżeli ty lub osoba, której pomagasz, macie pytania na temat planów oferowanych za pośrednictwem Ambetter from Meridian, macie prawo poprosić o bezpłatną pomoc i informacje w języku ojczystym. Aby skorzystać z pomocy tłumacza, zadzwoń pod numer 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**German:** Falls Sie oder jemand, dem Sie helfen, Fragen zu Ambetter from Meridian hat, haben Sie das Recht, kostenlose Hilfe und Informationen in Ihrer Sprache zu erhalten. Um mit einem Dolmetscher zu sprechen, rufen Sie bitte die Nummer 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711) an.

**Italian:** Se lei, o una persona che lei sta aiutando, avesse domande su Ambetter from Meridian, ha diritto a usufruire gratuitamente di assistenza e informazioni nella sua lingua. Per parlare con un interprete, chiami il 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**Japanese:** Ambetter from Meridian について何かご質問がございましたらご連絡ください。ご希望の言語によるサポートや情報を無料でご提供いたします。通訳が必要な場合は、1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711)までお電話ください。

**Russian:** В случае возникновения у вас или у лица, которому вы помогаете, каких-либо вопросов о программе страхования Ambetter from Meridian вы имеете право получить бесплатную помощь и информацию на своем родном языке. Чтобы поговорить с переводчиком, позвоните по телефону 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**Serbo Croatian:** Ako Vi, ili neko kome pomažete, imate pitanja u vezi Ambetter from Meridian, imate pravo na besplatnu pomoć i informaciju na sopstvenom jeziku. Ukoliko želite da pričate sa prevodiocem, pozovite broj 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

**Tagalog:** Kung ikaw, o ang iyong tinutulungan, ay may mga katanungan tungkol sa Ambetter from Meridian, may karapatan ka na makakuha nang tulong at impormasyon sa iyong wika ng walang gastos. Upang makausap ang isang tagasalin, tumawag sa 1-833-993-2426 (TTY/TDD Relay 711).

## Statement of Non-Discrimination

Ambetter from Meridian complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Ambetter from Meridian does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Ambetter from Meridian:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
  - Qualified sign language interpreters
  - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
  - Qualified interpreters
  - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact Ambetter from Meridian at 1-833-993-2426 (TTY Relay 711).

If you believe that Ambetter from Meridian has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a *grievance* with: Ambetter from Meridian, Attn: Appeals and Grievances PO Box 10341 Van Nuys, CA 91410, 1-833-993-2426 (TTY Relay 711), Fax 1-833-886-7956. You can file a *grievance* in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a *grievance*, Ambetter from Meridian is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TTY).

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

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