# **Exclusions and Limitations**

# L.A. Care Health Plan

Please read carefully.



# **Exclusions**

The items and services listed in this "Exclusions" section are excluded from coverage. These exclusions apply to all Services that would otherwise be covered under this Subscriber Agreement & Member Handbook regardless of whether the services are within the scope of a provider's license or certificate. Additional exclusions that apply only to a particular benefit are listed in the description of that benefit in the "Plan Benefits" section.

Adult hearing aids Adult routine dental services Artificial insemination and conception by artificial means

All Services related to artificial insemination and conception by artificial means, such as: ovum transplants, gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT), semen and eggs (and Services related to their procurement and storage), in vitro fertilization (IVF), and zygote intrafallopian transfer (ZIFT).

**Biofeedback services**, unless the treatment is prescribed by a licensed physician and surgeon or by a licensed psychologist as Behavioral Health Treatment for pervasive developmental disorder or autism, and such treatment is provided pursuant to a treatment plan administered by qualified autism providers.

#### **Certain exams and Services**

Physical exams and other Services (1) required for obtaining or maintaining employment or participation in employee programs, (2) required for insurance or licensing, or (3) on court order or required for parole or probation. This exclusion does not apply if a participating physician determines that the Services are Medically Necessary.

## **Cosmetic Services**

Services that are intended primarily to change or maintain your appearance, except that this exclusion does not apply to any of the following:

Services covered under "Reconstructive Surgery" in the "Plan Benefits" section

The following devices covered under "Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices" in the "Plan Benefits" section: testicular implants implanted as part of a covered reconstructive surgery, breast prostheses needed after a mastectomy, and prostheses to replace all or part of an external facial body part.

#### **Chiropractic Services**

Chiropractic Services and the Services of a chiropractor.

#### **Custodial care**

Assistance with activities of daily living (for example: walking, getting in and out of bed, bathing, dressing, feeding, toileting, and taking medicine). This exclusion does not apply to assistance with activities of daily living that is provided as part of covered hospice, Skilled Nursing Facility, or inpatient hospital care.

#### **Dental and orthodontic Services**

Dental and orthodontic Services such as X-rays, appliances, implants, Services provided by dentists or orthodontists, dental Services following accidental injury to teeth, and dental Services resulting from medical treatment such as surgery on the jawbone and radiation treatment.

This exclusion does not apply to Services covered under "Dental and Orthodontic Services" in the "Plan Benefits" section.

#### Disposable supplies

Disposable supplies for home use, such as bandages, gauze, tape, antiseptics, dressings, Ace-type bandages, and diapers, underpads, and other incontinence supplies. This exclusion does not apply to disposable supplies covered under "Durable Medical Equipment for Home Use," "Home Health Care," "Hospice Care," "Ostomy and Urological Supplies," and "Outpatient Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements" in the "Plan Benefits" section.

#### Hair loss or growth treatment

Items and services when prescribed for the promotion, prevention, or other treatment of hair loss or hair growth.

## **Infertility Services**

Services related to the diagnosis and treatment of infertility.

#### Items and services that are not health care items and services

- For example, we do not cover:
- Teaching manners and etiquette
- Teaching and support services to develop planning skills such as daily activity planning and project or task planning
- Items and services that increase academic knowledge or skills
- Teaching and support services to increase intelligence
- Academic coaching or tutoring for skills such as grammar, math, and time management
- Teaching you how to read, whether or not you have dyslexia
- Educational testing
- Teaching art, dance, horse riding, music, play or swimming
- Teaching skills for employment or vocational purposes
- Vocational training or teaching vocational skills
- Professional growth courses
- Training for a specific job or employment counseling

## Items and services to correct refractive defects of the eye

Items and services (such as eye surgery or contact lenses to reshape the eye) for the purpose of correcting refractive defects of the eye such as myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism.

#### Long-term care benefits

Includes long-term skilled nursing care in a licensed facility, and respite care. (For short-term skilled nursing care or hospice benefits, please see Skilled Nursing Care under the "Plan Benefits" section.)

#### Non-medically necessary health care services

Any health care services, supplies, comfort items, procedures, or equipment that is not medically necessary. This includes private rooms in a hospital, unless medically necessary.

#### **Oral nutrition**

Outpatient oral nutrition, such as dietary supplements, herbal supplements, weight loss aids, formulas, and food.

This exclusion does not apply to any of the following:

- Amino acid—modified products and elemental dietary enteral formula covered under "Outpatient Drugs, Supplies, and Supplements" in the "Plan Benefits" section
- Enteral formula covered under "Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices" in the "Plan Benefits" section

#### Other insurance

Services covered by any other insurance or health care service plan. L.A. Care will provide the services at the time of need. (Please see the "Coordination of Benefits" section for details.)

#### Residential care

Care in a facility where you stay overnight, except that this exclusion does not apply when the overnight stay is part of covered care in a hospital, a Skilled Nursing Facility, inpatient respite care covered in the "Hospice Care" section, a licensed facility providing crisis residential Services covered under "Inpatient psychiatric hospitalization or intensive psychiatric treatment programs" in the "Mental Health Services" section.

#### **Routine foot care items and services**

Routine foot care items and services that are not Medically Necessary.

## Services not approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration

Drugs, supplements, tests, vaccines, devices, radioactive materials, and any other Services that by law require federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval in order to be sold in the U.S. but are not approved by the FDA. This exclusion does not apply to any of the following:

- Experimental or investigational Services when an investigational application has been filed with the FDA and the manufacturer or other source makes the Services available to you or L.A. Care through an FDA-authorized procedure, except that we do not cover Services that are customarily provided by research sponsors free of charge to enrollees in a clinical trial or other investigational treatment protocol
- Services covered under "Clinical Trials" in the "Plan Benefits" section

If L.A. Care denies your request for services based on the determination that the services are experimental or investigational, you may request an Independent Medical Review. For information about the Independent Medical Review process, please refer to the "Grievance and Appeals" section of this Subscriber Agreement & Member Handbook.

## Services performed by unlicensed people

Services that are performed safely and effectively by people who do not require licenses or certificates by the state to provide health care services and where the Member's condition does not require that the services be provided by a licensed health care provider. This exclusion does not apply to services provided as part of a Behavioral Health Treatment plan by a Qualified Autism Service Professional or Qualified Autism Service Paraprofessional for the treatment of pervasive developmental disorders or autism.

#### Services received before a member's starting date with L.A. Care.

# Services related to a noncovered Service

When a Service is not covered, all Services related to the noncovered Service are excluded, except for Services we would otherwise cover to treat complications of the noncovered Service. For example, if you have a noncovered cosmetic surgery, we would not cover Services you receive in preparation for the surgery or for

follow-up care. If you later suffer a life-threatening complication such as a serious infection, this exclusion would not apply and we would cover any Services that we would otherwise cover to treat that complication.

# Surrogacy

Services for anyone in connection with a surrogacy arrangement, except for otherwise-covered Services provided to a Member who is a surrogate. A surrogacy arrangement is one in which a woman (the surrogate) agrees to become pregnant and to surrender the baby to another person or persons who intend to raise the child. Please refer to "Surrogacy arrangements" under "Reductions" in this "Exclusions, Limitations, Coordination of Benefits, and Reductions" section for information about your obligations to us in connection with a surrogacy arrangement, including your obligation to reimburse us for any Services we cover.

# Limitations

We will make a good faith effort to provide or arrange for covered Services within the remaining availability of facilities or personnel in the event of unusual circumstances that delay or render impractical the provision of Services under this Subscriber Agreement & Member Handbook, such as a major disaster, epidemic, war, riot, civil insurrection, disability of a large share of personnel at a participating hospital, complete or partial destruction of facilities, and labor dispute. Under these circumstances, if you have an Emergency Medical Condition, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital, as described under "Emergency Services" section.

Additional limitations that apply only to a particular benefit are listed in the description of that benefit in the "Benefits Plan" section.