

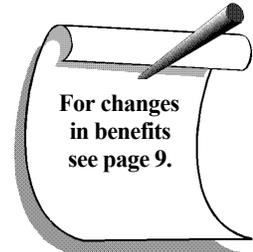


MVP Health Care

<http://www.mvphealthcare.com>

2004

A Health Maintenance Organization



Serving: Upstate New York and Vermont

Enrollment in this Plan is limited; see page 8 for requirements.



This Plan has "Excellent" accreditation from the NCQA. See the 2004 Guide for more information on NCQA.

Enrollment codes for this Plan:

Eastern Region

**GA1 Self Only
GA2 Self and Family**

Central Region

**M91 Self Only
M92 Self and Family**

Mid-Hudson Region

**MX1 Self Only
MX2 Self and Family**

Vermont Region

**VW1 Self Only
VW2 Self and Family**

Special Notice: MVP Health Care has added Oswego and Cayuga Counties to enrollment code M9 (Central Region).

Authorized for distribution by the:



United States
Office of Personnel Management
Center for
Retirement and Insurance Services
<http://www.opm.gov/insure>





OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

UNITED STATES
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20418-0001

Dear Federal Employees Health Benefits Program Participant:

I am pleased to present this 2004 Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program plan brochure. The brochure describes the benefits this plan offers you for 2004. Because benefits vary from year to year, you should review your plan's brochure every Open Season – especially Section 2, which explains how the plan changed.

It takes a lot of information to help a consumer make wise healthcare decisions. The information in this brochure, our FEHB Guide, and our web-based resources, make it easier than ever to get information about plans, to compare benefits and to read customer service satisfaction ratings for the national and local plans that may be of interest. Just click on www.opm.gov/insure!

The FEHB Program continues to be an enviable national model that offers exceptional choice, and uses private-sector competition to keep costs reasonable, ensure high-quality care, and spur innovation. The Program, which began in 1960, is sound and has stood the test of time. It enjoys one of the highest levels of customer satisfaction of any healthcare program in the country.

I continue to take aggressive steps to keep the FEHB Program on the cutting edge of employer-sponsored health benefits. We demand cost-effective quality care from our FEHB carriers and we have encouraged Federal agencies and departments to pay the full FEHB health benefit premium for their employees called to active duty in the Reserve and National Guard so they can continue FEHB coverage for themselves and their families. Our carriers have also responded to my request to help our members to be prepared by making additional supplies of medications available for emergencies as well as call-up situations and you can help by getting an Emergency Preparedness Guide at www.opm.gov. OPM's *HealthierFeds* campaign is another way the carriers are working with us to ensure Federal employees and retirees are informed on healthy living and best-treatment strategies. You can help to contain healthcare costs and keep premiums down by living a healthy life style.

Open Season is your opportunity to review your choices and to become an educated consumer to meet your healthcare needs. Use this brochure, the FEHB Guide, and the web resources to make your choice an informed one. Finally, if you know someone interested in Federal employment, refer them to www.usajobs.opm.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kay Coles James".

Kay Coles James
Director



Notice of the Office of Personnel Management's Privacy Practices

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

By law, the United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM), which administers the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, is required to protect the privacy of your personal medical information. OPM is also required to give you this notice to tell you how OPM may use and give out ("disclose") your personal medical information held by OPM.

OPM **will** use and give out your personal medical information:

- To you or someone who has the legal right to act for you (your personal representative),
- To the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, if necessary, to make sure your privacy is protected,
- To law enforcement officials when investigating and/or prosecuting alleged or civil or criminal actions, and
- Where required by law.

OPM **has the right** to use and give out your personal medical information to administer the FEHB Program. For example:

- To communicate with your FEHB health plan when you or someone you have authorized to act on your behalf asks for our assistance regarding a benefit or customer service issue.
- To review, make a decision, or litigate your disputed claim.
- For OPM and the General Accounting Office when conducting audits.

OPM **may** use or give out your personal medical information for the following purposes under limited circumstances:

- For Government health care oversight activities (such as fraud and abuse investigations),
- For research studies that meet all privacy law requirements (such as for medical research or education), and
- To avoid a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

By law, OPM must have your written permission (an "authorization") to use or give out your personal medical information for any purpose that is not set out in this notice. You may take back ("revoke") your written permission at any time, except if OPM has already acted based on your permission.

By law, you **have the right** to:

- See and get a copy of your personal medical information held by OPM.
- Amend any of your personal medical information created by OPM if you believe that it is wrong or if information is missing, and OPM agrees. If OPM disagrees, you may have a statement of your disagreement added to your personal medical information.

- Get a listing of those getting your personal medical information from OPM in the past 6 years. The listing will not cover your personal medical information that was given to you or your personal representative, any information that you authorized OPM to release, or that was given out for law enforcement purposes or to pay for your health care or a disputed claim.
- Ask OPM to communicate with you in a different manner or at a different place (for example, by sending materials to a P.O. Box instead of your home address).
- Ask OPM to limit how your personal medical information is used or given out. However, OPM may not be able to agree to your request if the information is used to conduct operations in the manner described above.
- Get a separate paper copy of this notice.

For more information on exercising your rights set out in this notice, look at www.opm.gov/insure on the web. You may also call 202-606-0191 and ask for OPM's FEHB Program privacy official for this purpose.

If you believe OPM has violated your privacy rights set out in this notice, you may file a complaint with OPM at the following address:

Privacy Complaints
Office of Personnel Management
P.O. Box 707
Washington, DC 20004-0707

Filing a complaint will not affect your benefits under the FEHB Program. You also may file a complaint with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

By law, OPM is required to follow the terms in this privacy notice. OPM has the right to change the way your personal medical information is used and given out. If OPM makes any changes, you will get a new notice by mail within 60 days of the change.

Table of Contents

Introduction	4
Plain Language	4
Stop Health Care Fraud!	4
Preventing medical mistakes	5
Section 1. Facts about this HMO plan	7
How we pay providers	7
Who provides my health care?	7
Your Rights	7
Service Area	8
Section 2. How we change for 2004	9
Program-wide changes	9
Changes to this Plan	9
Section 3. How you get care	10
Identification cards	10
Where you get covered care	10
• Plan providers	10
• Plan facilities	10
What you must do to get covered care	10
• Primary care	10
• Specialty care	10
• Hospital care	11
Circumstances beyond our control	12
Services requiring our prior approval	12
Section 4. Your costs for covered services	13
• Copayments	13
• Deductible	13
• Coinsurance	13
Your catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum	13
Section 5. Benefits	14
Overview	14
(a) Medical services and supplies provided by physicians and other health care professionals	15
(b) Surgical and anesthesia services provided by physicians and other health care professionals	24
(c) Services provided by a hospital or other facility, and ambulance services	28
(d) Emergency services/accidents	31
(e) Mental health and substance abuse benefits	33
(f) Prescription drug benefits	35

(g) Special features	37
• After Hours MVP Unit	
• Services for deaf and hearing impaired	
• High Risk Pregnancies	
• Travel Benefit/Overseas	
• Out-of-Area Student Benefits	
(h) Dental Benefits	38
(i) Non-FEHB benefits available to Plan members	40
Section 6. General exclusions -- things we don't cover	41
Section 7. Filing a claim for covered services	42
Section 8. The disputed claims process	43
Section 9. Coordinating benefits with other coverage	45
When you have other health coverage	
• What is Medicare?	45
• Should I enroll in Medicare?	45
• Medicare + Choice	48
• TRICARE and CHAMPVA	48
• Workers' Compensation	48
• Medicaid	49
• Other Government agencies	49
• When others are responsible for injuries	49
Section 10. Definitions of terms we use in this brochure	50
Section 11. FEHB facts	51
Coverage information	51
• No pre-existing condition limitation	51
• Where you can get information about enrolling in the FEHB Program	51
• Types of coverage available for you and your family	51
• Children's Equity Act	52
• When benefits and premiums start	52
• When you retire	52
When you lose benefits	52
• When FEHB coverage ends	52
• Spouse equity coverage	53
• Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC)	53
• Converting to individual coverage	53
• Getting a Certificate of Group Health Plan Coverage	53
Two new Federal Programs complement FEHB benefits	54
The Federal Flexible Spending Account Program – <i>FSAFEDS</i>	54
The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program	58
Index	59
Summary of benefits	64
Rates	Back Cover

Introduction

This brochure describes the benefits of MVP Health Plan, Inc. under our contract (CS 2362) with the United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM), as authorized by the Federal Employees Health Benefits law. The address for MVP Health Care's administrative offices is:

MVP Health Care, Inc.
625 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

This brochure is the official statement of benefits. No oral statement can modify or otherwise affect the benefits, limitations, and exclusions of this brochure. It is your responsibility to be informed about your health benefits.

If you are enrolled in this Plan, you are entitled to the benefits described in this brochure. If you are enrolled in Self and Family coverage, each eligible family member is also entitled to these benefits. You do not have a right to benefits that were available before January 1, 2004, unless those benefits are also shown in this brochure.

OPM negotiates benefits and rates with each plan annually. Benefit changes are effective January 1, 2004, and are summarized on page 64. Rates are shown at the end of this brochure.

Plain Language

All FEHB brochures are written in plain language to make them responsive, accessible, and understandable to the public. For instance,

- Except for necessary technical terms, we use common words. For instance, "you" means the enrollee or family member, "we" means MVP Health Plan.
- We limit acronyms to ones you know. FEHB is the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. OPM is the United States Office of Personnel Management. If we use others, we tell you what they mean first
- Our brochure and other FEHB plans' brochures have the same format and similar descriptions to help you compare plans.

If you have comments or suggestions about how to improve the structure of this brochure, let OPM know. Visit OPM's "Rate Us" feedback area at www.opm.gov/insure or e-mail OPM at fehwebcomments@opm.gov. You may also write to OPM at the Office of Personnel Management, Insurance Services Programs, Program Planning and Evaluation Group, 1900 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20415-3650.

Stop Health Care Fraud!

Fraud increases the cost of health care for everyone and increases your Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program premium.

OPM's Office of the Inspector General investigates all allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse in the FEHB Program regardless of the agency that employs you or from which you retired.

Protect Yourself From Fraud - Here are some things you can do to prevent fraud:

- Be wary of giving your plan identification (ID) number over the telephone or to people you do not know, except to your doctor, other provider, or authorized plan or OPM representative.
- Let only the appropriate medical professionals review your medical record or recommend services.
- Avoid using health care providers who say that an item or service is not usually covered, but they know how to bill us to get it paid.
- Carefully review explanations of benefits (EOBs) that you receive from us.
- Do not ask your doctor to make false entries on certificates, bills or records in order to get us to pay for an item or service.

- If you suspect that a provider has charged you for services you did not receive, billed you twice for the same service, or misrepresented any information, do the following:
 - Call the provider and ask for an explanation. There may be an error.
 - If the provider does not resolve the matter, call us at 888/687-6277 and explain the situation.
 - If we do not resolve the issue:

**CALL -- THE HEALTH CARE FRAUD HOTLINE
202-418-3300**

**OR WRITE TO:
The United States Office of Personnel Management
Office of the Inspector General Fraud Hotline
1900 E Street, NW, Room 6400
Washington, DC 20415**

- Do not maintain as a family member on your policy:
 - Your former spouse after a divorce decree or annulment is final (even if a court order stipulates otherwise); or
 - Your child over age 22 (unless he/she is disabled and incapable of self support).
- If you have any questions about the eligibility of a dependent, check with your personnel office if you are employed, with your retirement office (such as OPM) if you are retired, or with the National Finance Center if you are enrolled under Temporary Continuation of Coverage.
- You can be prosecuted for fraud and your agency may take action against you if you falsify a claim to obtain FEHB benefits or try to obtain services for someone who is not an eligible family member or who is no longer enrolled in the Plan.

Preventing Medical Mistakes

An influential report from the Institute of Medicine estimates that up to 98,000 Americans die every year from medical mistakes in hospitals alone. That's about 3,230 preventable deaths in the FEHB Program a year. While death is the most tragic outcome, medical mistakes cause other problems such as permanent disabilities, extended hospital stays, longer recoveries, and even additional treatments. By asking questions, learning more and understanding your risks, you can improve the safety of your own health care, and that of your family members. Take these simple steps:

- 1. Ask questions if you have doubts or concerns.**
 - Ask questions and make sure you understand the answers.
 - Choose a doctor with whom you feel comfortable talking.
 - Take a relative or friend with you to help you ask questions and understand answers.
- 2. Keep and bring a list of all the medicines you take.**
 - Give your doctor and pharmacist a list of all the medicines that you take, including non-prescription medicines.
 - Tell them about any drug allergies you have.
 - Ask about side effects and what to avoid while taking the medicine.
 - Read the label when you get your medicine, including all warnings.
 - Make sure your medicine is what the doctor ordered and know how to use it.
 - Ask the pharmacist about your medicine if it looks different than you expected.
- 3. Get the results of any test or procedure.**
 - Ask when and how you will get the results of test or procedures.
 - Don't assume the results are fine if you do not get them when expected, be it in person, by phone, or by mail.
 - Call your doctor and ask for your results.
 - Ask what the results mean for your care.
- 4. Talk to your doctor about which hospital is best for your health needs.**

- Ask your doctor about which hospital has the best care and results for your condition if you have more than one hospital to choose from to get the health care you need.
 - Be sure you understand the instructions you get about follow-up care when you leave the hospital.
5. **Make sure you understand what will happen if you need surgery.**
- Make sure you, your doctor, and your surgeon all agree on exactly what will be done during the operation.
 - Ask your doctor, “Who will manage my care when I am in the hospital?”
 - Ask your surgeon:
 - Exactly what will you be doing?
 - About how long will it take?
 - What will happen after surgery?
 - How can I expect to feel during recovery?
 - Tell the surgeon, anesthesiologist, and nurses about any allergies, bad reaction to anesthesia, and any medications you are taking.

Want more information on patient safety?

- www.ahrq.gov/consumer/pathqpack.htm. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality makes available a wide-ranging list of topics not only to inform consumers about patient safety but to help choose quality healthcare providers and improve the quality of care you receive.
- www.npsf.org. The National Patient Safety Foundation has information on how to ensure safer healthcare for you and your family.
- www.talkaboutrx.org/consumer.html. The National Council on Patient Information and Education is dedicated to improving communication about the safe, appropriate use of medicines.
- www.leapfroggroup.org. The Leapfrog Group is active in promoting safe practices in hospital care.
- www.ahqa.org. The American Health Quality Association represents organizations and healthcare professionals working to improve patient safety.
- www.quic.gov/report. Find out what federal agencies are doing to identify threats to patient safety and help prevent mistakes in the nation’s healthcare delivery system.

Section 1. Facts about this HMO plan

This Plan is a health maintenance organization (HMO). We require you to see specific physicians, hospitals, and other providers that contract with us. These Plan providers coordinate your health care services. The Plan is solely responsible for the selection of these providers in your area. Contact the Plan for a copy of their most recent provider directory.

HMOs emphasize preventive care such as routine office visits, physical exams, well-baby care, and immunizations, in addition to treatment for illness and injury. Our providers follow generally accepted medical practice when prescribing any course of treatment.

When you receive services from Plan providers, you will not have to submit claim forms or pay bills. You only pay the copayments and/or coinsurance described in this brochure. When you receive emergency services from non-Plan providers, you may have to submit claim forms.

You should join an HMO because you prefer the plan's benefits, not because a particular provider is available. You cannot change plans because a provider leaves our Plan. We cannot guarantee that any one physician, hospital, or other provider will be available and/or remain under contract with us.

How we pay providers

We contract with individual physicians, medical groups, and hospitals to provide the benefits in this brochure. These Plan providers accept a negotiated payment from us, and you will only be responsible for your copayments or coinsurance.

Your Rights

OPM requires that all FEHB Plans provide certain information to their FEHB members. You may get information about us, our networks, providers and facilities. OPM's FEHB website (www.opm.gov/insure) lists the specific types of information that we must make available to you. Some of the required information is listed below.

- MVP Health Care is licensed in the States of New York and Vermont to operate as an HMO.
- MVP Health Care has been in operation since 1983.
- MVP Health Care is a not-for-profit, federally qualified HMO.
- MVP Health Care has Excellent NCQA Accreditation.

If you want more information about us, call 888/687-6277, or write to MVP Health Care, 625 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305. You may also contact us by fax at 518/386-7700 or visit our website at <http://www.mvphealthcare.com>

Service Area

To enroll in this Plan, you must live in or work in our Service Area. This is where our providers practice. Our service area is as follows:

Eastern Region (GA1 Self only, GA2 Self and family): The New York counties of Albany, Fulton, Hamilton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, and Washington.

Central Region (M91 Self only, M92 Self and family): The New York counties of Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Delaware, Herkimer, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Otsego, and Tioga.

Mid-Hudson Region (MX1 Self only, MX2 Self and family): The New York counties of Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan and Ulster.

Vermont (VW1 Self only, VW2 Self and family): The Vermont counties of Addison, Bennington, Caledonia, Chittenden, Essex, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans, Rutland, Washington, Windham, and Windsor.

Ordinarily, you must get your care from providers who contract with us. If you receive care outside our service area, we will pay only for emergency care benefits. We will not pay for any other health care services out of our service area unless the services have prior plan approval.

If you or a covered family member move outside of our service area, you can enroll in another plan. If your dependents live out of the area (for example, if your child goes to college in another state), you should consider enrolling in a fee-for-service plan or an HMO that has agreements with affiliates in other areas. If you or a family member move, you do not have to wait until Open Season to change plans. Contact your employing or retirement office.

Section 2. How we change for 2004

Do not rely on these change descriptions; this page is not an official statement of benefits. For that, go to Section 5 Benefits. Also, we edited and clarified language throughout the brochure; any language change not shown here is a clarification that does not change benefits.

Program-wide changes

- We added information regarding two new Federal Programs that complement FEHB benefits, the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program - *FSAFEDS* and the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program. See pages 55-59.
- We added information regarding Preventing medical mistakes. See page 5.
- We added information regarding enrolling in Medicare. See page 45.
- We revised the Medicare Primary Payer Chart. See page 47.

Changes to this Plan

- If you are in Enrollment Code GA, your share of the non-Postal premium will increase by 4.1% for Self Only and increase by 4.1% for Self and Family
- If you are in Enrollment Code M9, your share of the non-Postal premium will increase by 9.5% for Self Only and increase by 9.5% for Self and Family.
- If you are in Enrollment Code MX, your share of the non-Postal premium will increase by 5.4% for Self Only and decrease by 8.1% for Self and Family.
- If you are in Enrollment Code VW, your share of the non-Postal premium will decrease by 33.3% for Self Only and decrease by 26.2% for Self and Family.
- Cayuga and Oswego Counties are now part of enrollment code M9, which is the Central Region.
- We now have Excellent accreditation from NCQA.

Section 3. How you get care

Identification cards

We will send you an identification (ID) card when you enroll. You should carry your ID card with you at all times. You must show it whenever you receive services from a Plan provider, or fill a prescription at a Plan pharmacy. Until you receive your ID card, use your copy of the Health Benefits Election Form, SF-2809, your health benefits enrollment confirmation (for annuitants), or your Employee Express confirmation letter.

If you do not receive your ID card within 30 days after the effective date of your enrollment, or if you need replacement cards, call us at 888/687-6277 or write to us at MVP Health Care 625 State Street Schenectady, NY 12305. You may also request replacement cards through our website at www.mvphealthcare.com.

Where you get covered care

You get care from “Plan providers” and “Plan facilities.” You will only pay copayments and/or coinsurance, and you will not have to file claims.

- **Plan providers**

Plan providers are physicians and other health care professionals in our service area that we contract with to provide covered services to our members. We credential Plan providers according to national standards.

We list Plan providers in the provider directory, which we update periodically. The list is also on our website at www.mvphealthcare.com.

- **Plan facilities**

Plan facilities are hospitals and other facilities in our service area that we contract with to provide covered services to our members. We list these in the provider directory, which we update periodically. The list is also on our website at www.mvphealthcare.com.

What you must do to get covered care

It depends on the type of care you need. First, you and each family member must choose a primary care physician (PCP). This decision is important since your PCP provides or arranges for most of your health care. Please use our provider directory or our website to choose your PCP.

- **Primary care**

Your primary care physician can be a doctor in Family or General Practice, Internal Medicine, OB/GYN, or Pediatrics. Your primary care physician will provide most of your health care, or give you a referral to see a specialist.

If you want to change primary care physicians or if your primary care physician leaves the Plan, call us. We will help you select a new one.

- **Specialty care**

Your primary care physician will refer you to a specialist for needed care. When you receive a referral from your primary care physician, you must return to the primary care physician after the consultation, unless your primary care physician authorized a certain number of visits without additional referrals. The primary care physician must provide or authorize any follow-up care. Do not go to the specialist for return visits unless your primary care physician gives you a referral. However, you may see any Plan gynecologist for routine office visits, or care related to pregnancy without a referral.

Here are other things you should know about specialty care:

- If you need to see a specialist frequently because of a chronic, complex, or serious medical condition, your primary care physician will develop a treatment plan that allows you to see your specialist for a certain number of visits without additional referrals. Your primary care physician will use our criteria when creating your treatment plan and must obtain authorization from a Plan Medical Director. Your PCP will submit his/her recommendation to our Medical Director and then the Medical Director will notify both you and your PCP of our decision in writing. Please contact our Member Services Department at 1-888-687-6277 if you have any questions about this process.
- If you are seeing a specialist when you enroll in our Plan, talk to your primary care physician. Your primary care physician will decide what treatment you need. If he or she decides to refer you to a specialist, ask if you can see your current specialist. If your current specialist does not participate with us, you must receive treatment from a specialist who does. Generally, we will not pay for you to see a specialist who does not participate with our Plan.
- If you are seeing a specialist and your specialist leaves the Plan, call your primary care physician, who will arrange for you to see another specialist. You may receive services from your current specialist until we can make arrangements for you to see someone else.
- If you have a chronic or disabling condition and lose access to your specialist because we:
 - terminate our contract with your specialist for other than cause; or
 - drop out of the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program and you enroll in another FEHB Plan; or
 - reduce our service area and you enroll in another FEHB Plan,you may be able to continue seeing your specialist for up to 90 days after you receive notice of the change. Contact us, or if we drop out of the FEHB Program, contact your new plan.

If you are in the second or third trimester of pregnancy and you lose access to your specialist based on the above circumstances, you can continue to see your specialist until the end of your postpartum care, even if it is beyond the 90 days.

• **Hospital care**

Your Plan primary care physician or specialist will make necessary hospital arrangements and supervise your care. This includes admission to a skilled nursing or other type of facility.

If you are in the hospital when your enrollment in our Plan begins, call our Member Services Department immediately at 1-888-687-6277. If you are new to the FEHB Program, we will arrange for you to receive care.

If you changed from another FEHB plan to us, your former plan will pay for the hospital stay until:

- You are discharged, not merely moved to an alternative care center; or
- The day your benefits from your former plan run out; or
- The 92nd day after you become a member of this Plan, whichever happens first.

These provisions apply only to the hospital benefits of the hospitalized person. If your plan terminates participation in the FEHB Program in whole or in part, or if OPM orders an enrollment change, this continuation of coverage provision does not apply. In such case, the hospitalized family member's benefits under the new plan begin on the effective date of enrollment.

Circumstances beyond our control

Under certain extraordinary circumstances, such as natural disasters, we may have to delay your services or we may be unable to provide them. In that case, we will make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the necessary care.

Services requiring our prior approval

Your primary care physician has authority to refer you for most services. For certain services, however, your physician must obtain approval from us. Before giving approval, we consider if the service is covered, medically necessary, and follows generally accepted medical practice.

We call this review and approval process precertification. Your physician must obtain precertification for services such as:

- Inpatient Hospital Admissions
- Organ/Tissue Transplants
- Cardiac rehabilitation programs
- Pulmonary rehabilitation programs
- Skilled nursing facility care
- Home health care
- Health education and nutritional counseling
- Sexual dysfunction services and prescriptions
- Elective inpatient, and certain outpatient procedures
- Growth Hormone Therapy
- Mental health and substance abuse treatment

Your physician will contact our medical review staff in order to obtain our approval. We may contact you and ask you some questions about your condition and the treatment you have received in the past.

If our Medical Director does not approve this procedure, you may follow the disputed claims process detailed in Section 8.

Section 4. Your costs for covered services

You must share the cost of some services. You are responsible for:

- **Copayments**

A copayment is a fixed amount of money you pay to the provider, facility, pharmacy, etc., when you receive services.

Example: When you see your primary care physician you pay a copayment of \$15 per office visit and when you go in the hospital, you pay \$240 per inpatient admission.

- **Deductible**

A deductible is a fixed expense you must incur for certain covered services and supplies before we start paying benefits for those services. We do not have a deductible.

- **Coinsurance**

Coinsurance is the percentage of our negotiated fee that you must pay for your care.

Example: In our Plan, you pay 20% of our allowance for durable medical equipment.

Your catastrophic out-of-pocket maximum

After your copays are equal to or greater than two times the cost of the total annual plan premium for two or more family members, you do not have to make any additional payments for certain services for the rest of the year. This amount is called your out-of-pocket maximum. Your out-of-pocket maximum does not include your prescription drug copays. You must continue to make copays for prescription drugs. Be sure to keep accurate records of your copays since you are responsible for informing us when you reach the maximum.

Section 5. Benefits -- OVERVIEW

(See page 9 for how our benefits changed this year and page 64 for a benefits summary.)

NOTE: This benefits section is divided into subsections. Please read the important things you should keep in mind at the beginning of each subsection. Also read the General Exclusions in Section 6; as they apply to the benefits in the following subsections. To obtain claims forms, claims filing advice, or more information about our benefits, contact us at 888/687-6277 or at our web site at <http://www.mvphealthcare.com>

(a) Medical services and supplies provided by physicians and other health care professionals	15-23
•Diagnostic and treatment services	
•Lab, X-ray, and other diagnostic tests	
•Preventive care, adult	
•Preventive care, children	
•Maternity care	
•Family planning	
•Infertility services	
•Allergy care	
•Treatment therapies	
•Physical and occupational therapies	
•Speech therapy	
•Hearing services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
•Vision services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
•Foot care	
•Orthopedic and prosthetic devices	
•Durable medical equipment (DME)	
•Home health services	
•Chiropractic	
•Alternative treatments	
•Educational classes and programs	
(b) Surgical and anesthesia services provided by physicians and other health care professionals.....	24-27
•Surgical procedures	
•Reconstructive surgery	
•Oral and maxillofacial surgery	
•Organ/tissue transplants	
•Anesthesia	
(c) Services provided by a hospital or other facility, and ambulance services	28-30
•Inpatient hospital	
•Outpatient hospital or ambulatory surgical center	
•Extended care benefits/skilled nursing care facility benefits	
•Hospice care	
•Ambulance	
(d) Emergency services/accidents.....	31-32
•Medical emergency	
•Ambulance	
(e) Mental health and substance abuse benefits	33-34
(f) Prescription drug benefits.....	35-36
(g) Special features	37
• After Hours MVP Unit	
• Services for the deaf and hearing impaired	
• High risk pregnancies	
• Travel benefit/Overseas	
• Out-of-area student coverage (to age 22)	
(h) Dental benefits.....	38-39
(i) Non-FEHB benefits available to Plan members.....	40
Summary of benefits.....	64

Section 5 (a) Medical services and supplies provided by physicians and other health care professionals

I
M
P
O
R
T
A
N
T

Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care.
- We do not have a calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Diagnostic and treatment services	
Professional services of physicians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In physician’s office, including office medical consultations and second surgical opinions • Initial examination of a newborn child covered under a family enrollment 	\$15 per office visit
Professional services of physicians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During a hospital stay • In a skilled nursing facility 	Nothing
At home	\$15 per visit
Not covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dental treatment of temporomandibular joint(TMJ) syndrome</i> • <i>Costs for which a member fails to keep an appointment</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>

Lab, X-ray and other diagnostic tests	You pay
<p>Tests, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood tests • Urinalysis • Non-routine pap tests • Pathology • X-rays • Non-routine Mammograms • Cat Scans/MRI • Ultrasound • Electrocardiogram and EEG 	<p>Nothing if you receive these services during your office visit; otherwise, \$15 per visit</p>
Preventive care, adult	
<p>Routine screenings, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Blood Cholesterol – once every three years, ages 19 through 64 • Colorectal Cancer Screening, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fecal occult blood test • Sigmoidoscopy, screening – every five years starting at age 50 <p>Routine Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test – one annually for men age 40 and older</p>	<p>\$15 per office visit</p>
<p>Routine pap test</p> <p>Note: The office visit is covered if pap test is received on the same day; see <i>Diagnosis and Treatment</i>, above.</p>	<p>\$15 per office visit</p>
<p>Routine mammogram –covered for women age 35 and older, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From age 35 through 39, one during this five year period • From age 40 through 49, one every one or two calendar years • At age 50 and older, one every calendar year 	<p>Nothing</p>
<p><i>Not covered: Physical exams required for obtaining or continuing employment or insurance, attending schools or camp, or travel.</i></p>	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>
<p>Routine immunizations, limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tetanus-diphtheria (Td) booster – once every 10 years, ages 19 and over (except as provided for under Childhood immunizations) • Influenza/Pneumococcal vaccines, annually, age 65 and over 	<p>Nothing if you receive these services during your office visit; otherwise, \$15 per visit</p>
<p><i>Not covered: Immunizations or vaccinations for employment, educational, insurance, or travel purposes</i></p>	<p><i>All Charges</i></p>

Preventive care, children	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childhood immunizations recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics 	Nothing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-child care charges for routine examinations, immunizations and care (through age 22) Examinations, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examinations done on the day of immunizations (through age 22) 	Nothing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eye exams through age 17 to determine the need for vision correction. Ear exams through age 17 to determine the need for hearing correction (exams for screening only) 	<p>\$15 per office visit (for refraction only)</p> <p>\$15 per office visit (for screening only)</p>
Maternity care	
<p>Complete maternity (obstetrical) care, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prenatal care Delivery Postnatal care <p>Note: Here are some things to keep in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may remain in the hospital up to 48 hours after a regular delivery and 96 hours after a cesarean delivery. We will extend your inpatient stay if medically necessary. We cover routine nursery care of the newborn child during the covered portion of the mother's maternity stay. We will cover other care of an infant who requires non-routine treatment only if we cover the infant under a Self and Family enrollment. We pay hospitalization and surgeon services (delivery) the same as for illness and injury. See Hospital benefits (Section 5c) and Surgery benefits (Section 5b). 	<p>\$15 copay for the initial office visit only and nothing thereafter</p>
<p><i>Not covered: Routine sonograms to determine fetal age, size or sex</i></p>	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>
Family planning	
<p>A broad range of family planning services, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary sterilization Surgically implanted contraceptives (such as Norplant) Injectable contraceptive drugs (such as Depo provera) Intrauterine devices (IUDs) Diaphragms <p>NOTE: We cover oral contraceptives under the prescription drug benefits.</p>	<p>\$15 per office visit</p>

Family planning (Continued)	You pay
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reversal of voluntary surgical sterilization, • genetic counseling, voluntary abortions, embryo transfer, GIFT, ZIFT, in-vitro fertilization 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>
Infertility services	
<p>Basic infertility services include those services provided for the initial evaluation and testing for infertility.</p> <p>Advanced infertility services such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semen analysis • Post-coital examinations • Hysterosalpingograms • Varicocele surgery • Artificial insemination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - intravaginal insemination (IVI) - intracervical insemination (ICI) - intrauterine insemination (IUI) <p>Note: We cover infertility services for members between twenty-one (21) and forty-four (44) years of age. You must obtain a referral from your PCP in order to see a Plan specialist for infertility services.</p> <p>Note- We cover fertility drugs such as HCG, Progesterone injections, Menotropins, Urofollitropins, Serophene (Clomid) under the prescription drug benefits (Section 5(f)). You pay the applicable prescription drug copays.</p>	<p>\$15 per office visit</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted reproductive technology (ART) procedures, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in-vitro fertilization - embryo transfer, gamete GIFT and zygote ZIFT - Zygote transfer • Services and supplies related to excluded ART procedures • Cost of donor sperm or sperm banking • Cost of donor egg • Gender Selection • External pump for administration of infertility drugs • Reversal of vasectomy or tubal ligation 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>

Allergy care	You pay
Testing and treatment Allergy injection	\$15 per office visit
Allergy serum	Nothing
<i>Not covered: provocative food testing and sublingual allergy desensitization</i>	<i>All charges.</i>
Treatment therapies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemotherapy and radiation therapy <p>Note: High dose chemotherapy in association with autologous bone marrow transplants is limited to those transplants listed under Organ/Tissue Transplants on page 26.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory and inhalation therapy • Dialysis – hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis • Intravenous (IV)/Infusion Therapy – Home IV and antibiotic therapy • Growth hormone therapy (GHT) <p>Note: Growth hormone is covered under the prescription drug benefit.</p> <p>Note: – We will only cover GHT when we preauthorize the treatment. Call 1-888-687-6277 for preauthorization. We will ask you to submit information that establishes that the GHT is medically necessary. Ask us to authorize GHT before you begin treatment; otherwise, we will only cover GHT services from the date you submit the information. If you do not ask or if we determine GHT is not medically necessary, we will not cover the GHT or related services and supplies. See <i>Services requiring our prior approval</i> in Section 3.</p>	\$15 per office visit
<i>Not covered: treatment that is not authorized or provided by a Plan doctor</i>	<i>All charges.</i>
Physical and occupational therapies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two consecutive months per acute condition for the services of each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - qualified physical therapists and; - occupational therapists. <p>Note: We only cover therapy to restore bodily function when there has been a total or partial loss of bodily function due to illness or injury. Cardiac rehabilitation following a heart transplant, bypass surgery or a myocardial infarction, is provided for up to 36 sessions</p>	\$15 per outpatient visit Nothing per visit during covered inpatient admission
<i>Not covered:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • long-term rehabilitative therapy • exercise programs 	<i>All charges.</i>

Speech Therapy	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 visits per calendar year for both habilitative and rehabilitative. 	\$15 per office visit
Hearing services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hearing testing for children through age 17 (see <i>Preventive care, children</i>). Exams for screening purposes only. 	\$15 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All other hearing testing Hearing aids, testing and examinations for them 	<i>All charges.</i>
Vision services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine eye refractions, covered once every 24 months <p>Note: You do not need a referral for the refraction exam. You will need a referral from your Primary Care Physician for any eye exams involving a diagnosed or suspected illness.</p>	\$15 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eyeglasses or contact lenses Eye exercises and orthoptics Radial keratotomy and other refractive surgery 	<i>All charges.</i>
Foot care	
<p>Non-routine foot care such as care that you receive when you are under active treatment for a metabolic or peripheral vascular disease, such as diabetes. You are limited to ten visits per year.</p>	\$15 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine foot care such as cutting, trimming or removal of corns, calluses, or the free edge of toenails, and similar routine treatment of conditions of the foot, except as stated above Treatment of weak, strained or flat feet or bunions or spurs; and of any instability, imbalance or subluxation of the foot (unless the treatment is by open cutting surgery) Foot orthotic devices such as arch supports and shoe inserts 	<i>All charges.</i>

Orthopedic and prosthetic devices	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artificial limbs and eyes; stump hose • Externally worn breast prostheses and surgical bras, including necessary replacements, following a mastectomy • Internal prosthetic devices, such as artificial joints, pacemakers, and surgically implanted breast implant following mastectomy. Note: We pay internal prosthetic devices as hospital benefits; see Section 5 (c) for payment information. See 5(b) for coverage of the surgery to insert the device. • Corrective orthopedic appliances for non-dental treatment of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) pain dysfunction syndrome 	20% of charges
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Orthopedic and corrective shoes</i> • <i>Arch supports</i> • <i>Foot orthotics</i> • <i>Heel pads and heel cups</i> • <i>Lumbosacral supports</i> • <i>Corsets, trusses, elastic stockings, support hose, and other supportive devices</i> • <i>Prosthetic repair or replacements unless authorized by MVP</i> • <i>Wigs and other hair prostheses</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>

Durable medical equipment (DME)	You pay
<p>Rental or purchase, at our option, including repair and adjustment, of durable medical equipment prescribed by your Plan physician, such as oxygen and dialysis equipment. Under this benefit, we also cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital beds • Wheelchairs; • Crutches; • Walkers; • Braces 	20% of charges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood glucose monitors; and • Insulin pumps. 	20% of the cost or a \$15 copay (whichever is less) for services and equipment necessary for the treatment of diabetes
<p>Note: Call us at 888/687-6277 as soon as your Plan physician prescribes this equipment. We will arrange with a health care provider to rent or sell you durable medical equipment at discounted rates and will tell you more about this service when you call.</p> <p>Note: Services and equipment necessary for the treatment of diabetes is limited to a 31-day supply per each copay.</p>	
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Motorized wheel chairs</i> • <i>Exercise Equipment</i> • <i>Car or Van Lifts</i> • <i>Hearing aids</i> • <i>Personal comfort items</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Home health services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home health care ordered by a Plan physician and provided by a registered nurse (R.N.), licensed practical nurse (L.P.N.), licensed vocational nurse (L.V.N.), or home health aide. • Services include oxygen therapy, intravenous therapy and medications. 	\$15 per visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>nursing care requested by, or for the convenience of, the patient or the patient's family;</i> • <i>home care primarily for personal assistance that does not include a medical component and is not diagnostic, therapeutic, or rehabilitative.</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>

Chiropractic	You pay
<p>Spinal manipulation only. Note: You must obtain a referral from your primary care physician</p>	<p>\$15 per office visit</p>
Alternative treatments	
<p><i>We do not cover alternative treatments including but not limited to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Acupuncture</i> • <i>Naturopathic services</i> • <i>Hypnotherapy</i> • <i>Biofeedback</i> 	<p><i>All charges</i></p>
Educational classes and programs	
<p>Coverage is limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes self-management <p>You may attend educational classes in most participating Plan hospitals please contact the hospital directly for details. You need a referral from your PCP to attend a class.</p>	<p>\$15 copay</p>

Section 5 (b). Surgical and anesthesia services provided by physicians and other health care professionals

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care.
- We do not have a calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services* for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- The amounts listed below are for the charges billed by a physician or other health care professional for your surgical care. Look in Section 5 (c) for charges associated with the facility charge (i.e. hospital, surgical center, etc.).
- **YOUR PHYSICIAN MUST GET PRECERTIFICATION FOR SOME SURGICAL PROCEDURES.** Please refer to the precertification information shown in Section 3 to be sure which services require precertification and identify which surgeries require precertification.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Surgical procedures	
<p>A comprehensive range of services, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operative procedures • Treatment of fractures, including casting • Normal pre- and post-operative care by the surgeon • Correction of amblyopia and strabismus • Endoscopy procedures • Biopsy procedures • Removal of tumors and cysts • Correction of congenital anomalies (see reconstructive surgery) • Surgical treatment of morbid obesity -- a condition in which an individual weighs 100 pounds or 100% over his or her normal weight according to current underwriting standards; eligible members must be age 18 or over. Will only be covered with Plan preauthorization and when medically necessary. • Insertion of internal prosthetic devices. See 5(a) – Orthopedic and prosthetic devices for device coverage information. 	\$15 per office visit

Surgical procedures continued on next page.

Surgical procedures <i>(Continued)</i>	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary sterilization • Treatment of burns <p>Note: Generally, we pay for internal prostheses (devices) according to where the procedure is done. For example, we pay Hospital benefits for a pacemaker and Surgery benefits for insertion of the pacemaker.</p>	\$15 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reversal of voluntary sterilization</i> • <i>Routine treatment of conditions of the foot; see Foot care.</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Reconstructive surgery	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgery to correct a functional defect • Surgery to correct a condition caused by injury or illness if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the condition produced a major effect on the member's appearance and - the condition can reasonably be expected to be corrected by such surgery • Surgery to correct a condition that existed at or from birth and is a significant deviation from the common form or norm. Examples of congenital anomalies are: protruding ear deformities; cleft lip; cleft palate; birth marks; webbed fingers; and webbed toes. • All stages of breast reconstruction surgery following a mastectomy, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - surgery to produce a symmetrical appearance on the other breast; - treatment of any physical complications, such as lymphedemas; - breast prostheses and surgical bras and replacements (see Prosthetic devices) <p>Note: If you need a mastectomy, you may choose to have this procedure performed on an inpatient basis and remain in the hospital up to 48 hours after the procedure.</p> <p>Note: See Orthopedic and Prosthetic Devices for information on the actual breast prostheses. You pay 20% of charges for breast prostheses.</p>	\$15 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cosmetic surgery – any surgical procedure (or any portion of a procedure) performed primarily to improve physical appearance through change in bodily form, except repair of accidental injury</i> • <i>Surgeries related to sex transformation</i> 	<i>All charges</i>

Oral and maxillofacial surgery	You pay
<p>Oral surgical procedures, limited to nondental treatment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of fractures of the jaws or facial bones; • Surgical correction of cleft lip, cleft palate or severe functional malocclusion; • Removal of stones from salivary ducts; • Excision of leukoplakia or malignancies; • Excision of cysts and incision of abscesses when done as independent procedures; and • Other surgical procedures that do not involve the teeth or their supporting structures. 	<p>\$15 per office visit</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Oral implants and transplants</i> • <i>Procedures that involve the teeth or their supporting structures (such as the periodontal membrane, gingiva, and alveolar bone)</i> • <i>Any dental care involved in the treatment of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) pain dysfunction syndrome</i> 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>
Organ/tissue transplants	
<p>Non-experimental transplants are limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cornea • Heart • Kidney • Liver • Allogeneic (donor) bone marrow transplants • Autologous bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell and peripheral stem cell support) for the following conditions: acute lymphocytic or non-lymphocytic leukemia; advanced Hodgkin's lymphoma; advanced non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; advanced neuroblastoma; breast cancer; multiple myeloma; epithelial ovarian cancer; and testicular, mediastinal, retroperitoneal and ovarian germ cell tumors • Intestinal transplants (small intestine) and the small intestine with the liver or small intestine with multiple organs such as the liver, stomach and pancreas 	<p>Nothing</p> <p>Note- Hospital admissions are subject to a \$240.00 inpatient copay. See Section 5(c).</p>

Organ/tissue transplants continued on next page

Organ/tissue transplants (Continued)	You pay
<p>Note: You must receive prior approval from the MVP Medical Director.</p> <p>Note: National Transplant Program (NTP) – We contract with Centers of Excellence network for all transplant services. The network we use is the United Resource Network (URN). URN selects facilities for participation in their network by using criteria such as: transplant experience, transplant volume, survival rates, geographic location, and medical education of the center and its' staff.</p> <p>Note: We cover related medical and hospital expenses of the donor when we cover the recipient.</p>	
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Donor screening tests and donor search expenses, except those performed for the actual donor</i> • <i>Implants of artificial organs</i> • <i>Transplants not listed as covered</i> 	<i>All charges</i>
Anesthesia	
<p>Professional services provided in –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital (inpatient) • Hospital outpatient department • Ambulatory surgical center 	Nothing
<p>Professional services provided in –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skilled nursing facility • Office 	\$15 per visit

Section 5 (c). Services provided by a hospital or other facility, and ambulance services

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Here are some important things to remember about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care and you must be hospitalized in a Plan facility.
- We do not have a calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- The amounts listed below are for the charges billed by the facility (i.e., hospital or surgical center) or ambulance service for your surgery or care. Any costs associated with the professional charge (i.e., physicians, etc.) are covered in Sections 5(a) or (b).
- **YOUR PHYSICIAN MUST RECEIVE OUR APPROVAL FOR ALL HOSPITAL STAYS.** Please refer to Section 3 for a list of services that require preauthorization.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Inpatient hospital	
<p>Room and board, such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ward, semiprivate, or intensive care accommodations; • general nursing care; and • meals and special diets. <p>NOTE: If you want a private room when it is not medically necessary, you pay the additional charge above the semiprivate room rate.</p> <p>Other hospital services and supplies, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms • Prescribed drugs and medicines • Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays • Administration of blood and blood products • Blood or blood plasma, if not donated or replaced • Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray services • Medical supplies and equipment, including oxygen • Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist services • Take-home items <p>Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home</p>	<p>\$240 per admission (limited to one per person or three per family, per year)</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Custodial care, rest cures, domiciliary or convalescent care</i> • <i>Non-covered facilities, such as nursing homes, schools</i> • <i>Personal comfort items, such as telephone, television, barber services, guest meals and beds</i> • <i>Private nursing care</i> 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>

Outpatient hospital or ambulatory surgical center	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating, recovery, and other treatment rooms • Prescribed drugs and medicines • Diagnostic laboratory tests, X-rays, and pathology services • Administration of blood, blood plasma, and other biologicals • Blood and blood plasma, if not donated or replaced • Pre-surgical testing • Dressings, casts, and sterile tray services • Medical supplies, including oxygen • Anesthetics and anesthesia service <p>NOTE: – We cover hospital services and supplies related dental procedures when necessitated by a non-dental physical impairment. We do not cover the dental procedures.</p>	<p>\$100 or 20% (which ever is less) per outpatient surgery or procedure</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Blood and blood derivatives not replaced by the member</i> • <i>Personal comfort items such as telephone and television</i> 	<p><i>All charges</i></p>
Extended care benefits/skilled nursing care facility benefits	
<p>Extended care benefits/skilled nursing care facility benefits: We cover up to 45 days per calendar year when full-time skilled nursing care is necessary. All necessary services are covered including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bed, board and general nursing care • Drugs, biologicals, supplies, and equipment ordinarily provided or arranged by the skilled nursing facility when prescribed by a Plan doctor. <p>Note: When there are no skilled nursing facilities near you, we may approve skilled nursing care in a hospital. When this happens, the inpatient hospital days count toward your 45-day skilled nursing facility annual maximum benefit.</p>	<p>Nothing, after the \$240 inpatient hospital copay</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <p><i>custodial care, rest cures, domiciliary or convalescent care</i></p>	<p><i>All charges</i></p>

Hospice care	You pay
<p>We cover up to 210 days of hospice care for a terminally ill member in the home or a hospice facility. Services are provided under the direction of a Plan doctor who certifies that the patient is in the terminal stages of illness, with a life expectancy of approximately six months or less. Covered services must be billed by the hospice and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inpatient hospice care • Outpatient care, including drugs and medical supplies • Five visits for bereavement counseling of the immediate family 	Nothing
<i>Not covered: Independent nursing, homemaker services</i>	<i>All charges</i>
Ambulance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local professional ambulance services when appropriate, medically necessary, and ordered or authorized by a Plan doctor 	Nothing

Section 5 (d). Emergency services/accidents

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure.
- We do not have a calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.

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What is a medical emergency?

A medical emergency is the sudden and unexpected onset of a condition or an injury that you believe endangers your life or could result in serious injury or disability, and requires immediate medical or surgical care. Some problems are emergencies because, if not treated promptly, they might become more serious; examples include deep cuts and broken bones. Others are emergencies because they are potentially life-threatening, such as heart attacks, strokes, poisonings, gunshot wounds, or sudden inability to breathe. There are many other acute conditions that we may determine are medical emergencies – what they all have in common is the need for quick action.

What to do in case of emergency:

Please call your primary care doctor when you are in an emergency situation. In extreme emergencies, if you are unable to contact your doctor, contact the local emergency system (e.g., the 911 telephone system) or go to the nearest hospital emergency room. Be sure to tell the emergency room personnel that you are a Plan member so they can notify us. You or a family member should notify us within 48 hours by calling 1-888-687-6277. It is your responsibility to ensure that the Plan has been timely notified. If you need to be hospitalized, we **must** be notified within 48 hours or on the first working day following your admission, unless it was not reasonably possible to notify the Plan within that time.

If you need to be hospitalized in a non-Plan facility, we must be notified within 48 hours or on the first working day following your admission, unless it was not reasonably possible to notify us within that time. If you are hospitalized in non-Plan facilities and we believe that care can be better provided in a Plan hospital, you will be transferred when medically feasible with any ambulance charges covered in full.

Benefits are available for care from non-Plan providers in a medical emergency only if delay in reaching a Plan provider would result in death, disability or significant jeopardy to your condition. However, follow-up care recommended by non-Plan providers must be approved by the Plan or provided by Plan providers.

Benefit Description	You pay
Emergency within our service area	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency care at a doctor's office 	\$15 per office visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency care at an urgent care center Emergency care as an outpatient or inpatient at a hospital, including doctors' services 	\$50 per urgent care center visit or hospital emergency room visit Note: We waive this copay if you are admitted to the hospital
<i>Not covered:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Elective care or non-emergency care</i> <i>Prescriptions written by non-Plan doctors</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Emergency outside our service area	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency care at a doctor's office Emergency care at an urgent care center Emergency care as an outpatient or inpatient at a hospital, including doctors' services 	Nothing
<i>Not covered:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Elective care or non-emergency care</i> <i>Emergency care provided outside the service area if the need for care could have been foreseen before leaving the service area</i> <i>Medical and hospital costs resulting from a normal full-term delivery of a baby outside the service area</i> <i>Prescriptions written by non-Plan doctors</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Ambulance	
Professional ambulance service when medically appropriate and ordered or authorized by a Plan doctor See 5(c) for non-emergency service.	Nothing
<i>Not covered: air ambulance if not medically necessary</i>	<i>All charges.</i>

Section 5 (e). Mental health and substance abuse benefits

When you get our approval for services and follow a treatment plan we approve, cost-sharing and limitations for Plan mental health and substance abuse benefits will be no greater than for similar benefits for other illnesses and conditions.

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- We do not have a calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- **YOU MUST GET PREAUTHORIZATION FOR THESE SERVICES.** Call us at 1-888-687-6277 before seeking mental health and substance abuse care. See the instructions after the benefits description below.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Mental health and substance abuse benefits	
<p>All diagnostic and treatment services recommended by a Plan provider and contained in a treatment plan that we approve. The treatment plan may include services, drugs, and supplies described elsewhere in this brochure.</p> <p>Note: Plan benefits are payable only when we determine the care is clinically appropriate to treat your condition and only when you receive the care as part of a treatment plan that we approve.</p>	<p>Your cost sharing responsibilities are no greater than for other illness or conditions.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional services, including individual or group therapy by providers such as psychiatrists, psychologists, or clinical social workers • Medication management 	<p>\$15 per visit</p>

Mental health and substance abuse benefits - Continued on next page

Mental health and substance abuse benefits <i>(Continued)</i>	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnostic tests 	Nothing if you receive these services during your office visit; otherwise, \$15 per visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services provided by a hospital or other facility • Services in approved alternative care settings such as partial hospitalization, half-way house, residential treatment, full-day hospitalization, facility based intensive outpatient treatment 	\$240 per inpatient hospital admission or \$100 or 20% (whichever is less) for outpatient procedures
<p><i>Not covered: Services we have not approved.</i></p> <p><i>Note: OPM will base its review of disputes about treatment plans on the treatment plan's clinical appropriateness. OPM will generally not order us to pay or provide one clinically appropriate treatment plan in favor of another.</i></p>	<i>All charges.</i>

Preauthorization

To be eligible to receive these benefits you must obtain a treatment plan and follow all of the following authorization processes:

- Call our Member Services Department at 1-888-687-6277 before seeking treatment.

Limitation

We may limit your benefits if you do not obtain a treatment plan.

Section 5 (f). Prescription drug benefits

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- We cover prescribed drugs and medications, as described in the chart beginning on the next page.
- All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- We do not have a calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- We administer an open prescription drug formulary. If your physician believes a name brand product is necessary or there is no generic available, your physician may prescribe a name brand drug from a formulary list. This list of name brand drugs is a preferred list of drugs that we selected to meet patient needs at a lower cost. To order a copy of our prescription drug formulary please call us at 1-888-687-6277.

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There are important features you should be aware of. These include:

- **Who can write your prescription.** A licensed Plan physician must write the prescription.
- **Where you can obtain them.** You must fill the prescription at a Plan pharmacy, or by mail for a covered maintenance medication. Please call our Member Services Department at 1-888-687-6277 or visit our website at www.mvphealthcare.com to determine whether or not a maintenance medication is available through our mail order program.
- **We use a formulary.** Our formulary is a list of medications that we approved for your use. Our Plan doctors prescribe drugs and Plan pharmacies dispense them in accordance with our formulary. A committee of primary care and specialty physicians, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals used clinical data to develop our formulary. They periodically review it and choose the most effective drugs for treating illness and disease. We will cover non-formulary drugs when prescribed by a Plan doctor. If you have questions about our formulary, please visit our website at www.mvphealthcare.com or call our Member Services Department at 1-888-687-6277
- **These are the dispensing limitations.**
 - You may obtain up to a 30-day supply per copay from a participating Retail pharmacy. If you are in the military and are called to active duty, please contact us if you need to fill a prescription before you depart.
 - Under our mail-order program, we limit prescription drug amounts to a 90-day supply per copay. **You may contact our Member Services Department at 1-888-687-6277 or visit our website at www.mvphealthcare.com to find out if a certain drug is covered through our mail order program. You will also need an order form which you can download from our website to use this benefit. Unfortunately, all drugs are not available through the mail-order program.**
 - Ask your doctor to write two prescriptions when your doctor prescribes a drug eligible for the mail order program – one for up to 30-days to be filled at your local pharmacy, and one to last up to 90-days which should be filled through familymeds.com. Complete and sign an order form and attach the 90-day prescription. Then, mail everything to Express Scripts Mail Pharmacy Service 3684 Marshall Lane Bensalem, PA 19020-5914
- **Why use generic drugs?**

You can save money by using generic drugs. However, you and your physician have the option to request a name-brand if a generic option is available. Using the most cost-effective medication saves money.

Prescription drug benefits begin on the next page.

Benefit Description	You pay
<p>Covered medications and supplies</p> <p>We cover the following medications and supplies prescribed by a Plan physician and obtained from a Plan pharmacy or through our mail order program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs and medicines that by Federal law of the United States require a physician’s prescription for their purchase, except as excluded below. • Enteral formulas when medically necessary (contact Plan for details) • Drugs for sexual dysfunction (see note below) • Contraceptive drugs <p>Note: We reserve the right to limit or restrict coverage of certain prescription drugs (i.e. drugs to treat sexual dysfunction) in accordance with policies governing medical necessity and quality of treatment. Please contact Plan for dose limits and prior authorization.</p> <p>Note: You may obtain up to a 90-day supply of maintenance medication by Mail-order . All prescription drugs are not available through mail. Infertility prescriptions shall only be available for members between twenty-one (21) and forty-four (44) years of age.</p>	<p>Retail Pharmacy</p> <p>\$ 5 per Generic prescription unit or refill from a participating Retail pharmacy</p> <p>\$ 20 per Brand Name prescription unit or refill from a participating Retail pharmacy</p> <p>\$ 40 per Non-Formulary prescription unit or refill from a participating Retail pharmacy</p> <p>Note: We do not waive the name brand copay when a generic drug is not available.</p> <p>Mail-order Pharmacy (approved maintenance medication only)</p> <p>\$10 per Generic prescription for up to a 90-day supply by Mail Order</p> <p>\$40 per Brand Name prescription for up to a 90-day supply by Mail Order</p> <p>\$80 per Non-Formulary prescription for up to a 90-day supply by Mail Order</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetic supplies such as insulin, needles and syringes, glucose test tablets and test tape, Benedict’s solution or equivalent, glucose monitors and acetone test tablets (31-day supply per dispensing) 	<p>Lesser of \$15 or 20% for the cost of insulin and other diabetic supplies</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposable needles and syringes for the administration of covered medications, as well as dressings and antiseptics 	<p>20% copay for disposable needles and syringes needed to inject covered prescription medications</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Drugs and supplies for cosmetic purposes</i> • <i>Drugs to enhance athletic performance</i> • <i>Drugs obtained at a non-Plan pharmacy (except for out-of-area emergencies)</i> • <i>Vitamins, nutrients and food supplements even if a physician prescribes or administers them</i> • <i>Nonprescription medicines</i> • <i>Refills due to a lost or misused prescription drug supply</i> • <i>Drugs used in connection with the provision of a non-covered service or benefit</i> 	<p><i>All Charges</i></p>

Section 5 (g). Special Features

Feature	Description
After Hours MVP Unit	For any of your health concerns, or if you have a question concerning your benefits, from 8:00 am – Midnight, 7 days a week, you may call 1-888-687-6277 and talk with a registered nurse or Member Services Representative who will discuss treatment options and answer your health questions.
Services for deaf and hearing impaired	If you are hearing impaired and wish to speak with a Member Services Representative please first contact a relay operator at 1-800-662-1220 and then they will call our Member Services Unit (at 1-888-687-6277) and help you during your conversation with our representative.
High risk pregnancies	MVP's Little Footprints is a special program for women who have had a problem with a past pregnancy or who are at risk for having problems during their current pregnancy. You must have at least three months left in the pregnancy to be eligible to participate. As part of this program one of our prenatal nurses will call you every month to discuss the progress of your pregnancy and what can be done to help ensure a healthy pregnancy and to answer any questions she may have. You or your physician may contact us concerning this program. If you feel you might benefit from this program please contact our Member Services Department at 1-888-687-6277.
Travel benefit/ services overseas	As an MVP member you are covered for emergency care anywhere in the world. If you or your family member ever have a medical emergency, either outside of our service area or outside of the United States, please go to the nearest hospital or medical facility. Please contact our Member Services Department as soon as possible at 1-888-687-6277 so that we may arrange for any necessary follow-up care that you may need.
Out-of-area student benefit	We offer extended out-of-area coverage for your dependent children up to age 22 as long as your child is a full-time student at an accredited college (full-time means 12 or more credit hours per semester). This benefit covers your child for care and services outside of our service area that he or she would normally obtain within our service area such as sick visits, outpatient surgery, and physical therapy. This benefit does not include coverage for routine preventive care such as physical exams, immunizations, and elective inpatient hospital services. This benefit is limited to \$2,500 maximum per year. We will reimburse you for the cost of covered services minus your applicable copay. You must submit claims to us within one year of the date of service for us to consider them. Submit claims to: MVP Health Plan, PO Box 2207, Schenectady, NY 12301. If you have any questions about claims submission or this out-of-area benefit, please contact our Member Services Department at 1-888-687-6277.

Section 5 (h). Dental benefits

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Our preventive dental benefits are only for children under age 19.
- You may bring your child to any dentist that you wish to receive these covered services
- We cover hospitalization for dental procedures only when a non-dental physical impairment exists which makes hospitalization necessary to safeguard the health of the patient; we do not cover the dental procedure unless it is described below.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.

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Accidental injury benefit	You pay
<p>We cover restorative services and supplies necessary to promptly repair (but not replace) sound natural teeth. The need for these services must result from an accidental injury. You pay nothing. Treatment must be performed within 12 months of the accident.</p>	<p>Nothing for physician's services</p> <p>Note: Hospital services are subject to the \$240 inpatient hospital copay or the \$100 copay or 20% (whichever is less) for outpatient services.</p>
<p><i>Not Covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dental services not shown as covered</i> • <i>Dental services that result from injury while eating</i> 	<p><i>All Charges</i></p>
Dental Benefits	You pay
<p>The following preventive and diagnostic services are covered for Plan members under age 19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One initial oral exam followed by periodic exams, once every six months • Bite wing x-rays, once every six months • Full mouth x-rays and panoramic x-rays, once every 36 months • Routine cleaning, scaling, and polishing of teeth, once every six months • Fluoride treatments, once every six months, to age 16 • Pulp vitality testing and diagnostic casts, as needed • Space maintainers and recementation thereof, as needed • Intra-oral and periapical x-rays, as needed • Sealants once per tooth per child (only covered to age 16) 	<p>\$10 per office visit</p>

Dental benefits - Continued on next page

Dental Benefits (Continued)	You pay
<p>Note: You may see the dental provider of your choice to receive benefits. Your dentist may require you to pay for the services at the time they are rendered, in which case you should submit a claim to us for full reimbursement, less your \$10 copay. You may obtain a claim form by calling us at 888/687-6277. Claim forms should be mailed to: Dental Benefit Providers, 7200 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 800, Bethesda, Maryland, 20814.</p> <p>If you do not file your claims promptly, we will still accept them if they are filed as soon as reasonably possible. We will neither accept nor provide coverage for claims that are submitted later than one (1) year after a service is performed.</p>	
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Other dental services not shown as covered</i> • <i>Services which are not approved by the Council of Dental Therapeutics of the American Dental Association (ADA)</i> • <i>Services rendered by a medical department, clinic, or similar facility of the child's employer, labor union, mutual benefits association, or other similar group</i> • <i>Charges for dental appointments that are not kept</i> • <i>Dental implants</i> 	<p><i>All charges</i></p>

Section 5 (i). Non-FEHB benefits available to Plan members

The benefits on this page are not part of the FEHB contract or premium, **and you cannot file an FEHB disputed claim about them.** Fees you pay for these services do not count toward FEHB deductibles or out-of-pocket maximums.

Expanded vision care

You are entitled to various discounts on designated eyewear purchases just by being an MVP Member. Please see the MVP Health Plan Something Extra brochure for listings of participating optical shops, and the type of discounts that they offer.

Fitness programs

Also by being an MVP member you may receive discounts from local Health and Fitness Clubs and Weight Control Centers on designated enrollment, membership or registration fees. Please see the MVP Health Plan Something Extra brochure for a listing of participating Health and Fitness Clubs and Weight Control Centers.

Safety equipment

MVP Health Plan offers you discounts on safety equipment for the home and car, and for personal use when purchased through our Something Extra program. Items such as bicycle helmets, child car seats and smoke detectors are available by calling our Member Services Department at 888/687-6277 or by visiting our website at www.mvphealthcare.com.

If you have any questions about any of these benefits, please contact the MVP Member Services Department at 888/687-6277.

Lasik Eye Surgery

You are entitled to discounts on lasik eye surgery just by being an MVP Member. Please see the MVP Health Plan Something Extra brochure for listings of participating lasik eye surgeons, and the type of discounts that they offer.

Acupuncture

You are entitled to various discounts on acupuncture services just by being an MVP Member. Please see the MVP Health Plan Something Extra brochure for listings of participating acupuncturists, and the type of discounts that they offer.

Section 6. General exclusions -- things we don't cover

The exclusions in this section apply to all benefits. **Although we may list a specific service as a benefit, we will not cover it unless your Plan doctor determines it is medically necessary to prevent, diagnose, or treat your illness, disease, injury, or condition.**

We do not cover the following:

- Care by non-Plan providers except for authorized referrals or emergencies (see Emergency Benefits);
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive while you are not enrolled in this Plan;
- Services, drugs, or supplies that are not medically necessary;
- Services, drugs, or supplies not required according to accepted standards of medical, dental, or psychiatric practice;
- Experimental or investigational procedures, treatments, drugs or devices;
- Services, drugs, or supplies related to abortions, except when the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or when the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest
- Services, drugs, or supplies related to sex transformations;
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive from a provider or facility barred from the FEHB Program; or
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive without charge while in active military service.

Section 7. Filing a claim for covered services

When you see Plan physicians, receive services at Plan hospitals and facilities, or obtain your prescription drugs at Plan pharmacies, you will not have to file claims. Just present your identification card and pay your copayment, coinsurance, or deductible.

You will only need to file a claim when you receive emergency services from non-plan providers. Sometimes these providers bill us directly. Check with the provider. If you need to file the claim, here is the process:

Medical, hospital and prescription drug benefits

In most cases, providers and facilities file claims for you. Physicians must file on the form HCFA-1500, Health Insurance Claim Form. Facilities will file on the UB-92 form. For claims questions and assistance, call us at 1-888-687-6277.

When you must file a claim -- such as for services you receive outside of the Plan's service area -- submit it on the HCFA-1500 or a claim form that includes the information shown below. Bills and receipts should be itemized and show:

- Covered member's name and ID number;
- Name and address of the physician or facility that provided the service or supply;
- Dates you received the services or supplies;
- Diagnosis;
- Type of each service or supply;
- The charge for each service or supply;
- A copy of the explanation of benefits, payments, or denial from any primary payer --such as the Medicare Summary Notice (MSN); and
- Receipts, if you paid for your services.

Submit your claims to: MVP Health Care
625 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

Dental services

For children's preventive dental benefit, the dentist may have you pay the cost of the entire visit. If so, please call Member Services at 1-888-687-6277 to obtain a claim form. As long as the visit was for covered care, you will be reimbursed the cost of the visit less your \$10 copay.

Submit your claims to: Dental Benefit Providers
7200 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800
Bethesda, MD 20814

We will not accept, or provide coverage for claims that are submitted more than one year after the date of service.

Deadline for filing your claim

Send us all of the documents for your claim as soon as possible. You must submit the claim by December 31 of the year after the year you received the service, unless timely filing was prevented by administrative operations of Government or legal incapacity, provided the claim was submitted as soon as reasonably possible.

When we need more information

Please reply promptly when we ask for additional information. We may delay processing or deny your claim if you do not respond.

Section 8. The disputed claims process

Follow this Federal Employees Health Benefits Program disputed claims process if you disagree with our decision on your claim or request for services, drugs, or supplies – including a request for preauthorization:

Step	Description
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| 1 | <p>Ask us in writing to reconsider our initial decision. You must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Write to us within 6 months from the date of our decision; and(b) Send your request to us at: MVP Health Plan, 625 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305; and(c) Include a statement about why you believe our initial decision was wrong, based on specific benefit provisions in this brochure; and(d) Include copies of documents that support your claim, such as physicians' letters, operative reports, bills, medical records, and explanation of benefits (EOB) forms. |
| 2 | <p>We have 30 days from the date we receive your request to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Pay the claim (or, if applicable, arrange for the health care provider to give you the care); or(b) Write to you and maintain our denial -- go to step 4; or(c) Ask you or your provider for more information. If we ask your provider, we will send you a copy of our request—go to step 3. |
| 3 | <p>You or your provider must send the information so that we receive it within 60 days of our request. We will then decide within 30 more days.</p> <p>If we do not receive the information within 60 days, we will decide within 30 days of the date the information was due. We will base our decision on the information we already have.</p> <p>We will write to you with our decision.</p> |
| 4 | <p>If you do not agree with our decision, you may ask OPM to review it.</p> <p>You must write to OPM within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 90 days after the date of our letter upholding our initial decision; or• 120 days after you first wrote to us -- if we did not answer that request in some way within 30 days; or• 120 days after we asked for additional information. <p>Write to OPM at: Office of Personnel Management, Insurance Services Programs, Health Insurance Group 3, 1900 E Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20415-3630.</p> |

The Disputed Claims Process (*continued*)

Send OPM the following information:

- A statement about why you believe our decision was wrong, based on specific benefit provisions in this brochure;
- Copies of documents that support your claim, such as physicians' letters, operative reports, bills, medical records, and explanation of benefits (EOB) forms;
- Copies of all letters you sent to us about the claim;
- Copies of all letters we sent to you about the claim; and
- Your daytime phone number and the best time to call.

Note: If you want OPM to review more than one claim, you must clearly identify which documents apply to which claim.

Note: You are the only person who has a right to file a disputed claim with OPM. Parties acting as your representative, such as medical providers, must include a copy of your specific written consent with the review request.

Note: The above deadlines may be extended if you show that you were unable to meet the deadline because of reasons beyond your control.

- 5** OPM will review your disputed claim request and will use the information it collects from you and us to decide whether our decision is correct. OPM will send you a final decision within 60 days. There are no other administrative appeals.

If you do not agree with OPM's decision, your only recourse is to sue. If you decide to sue, you must file the suit against OPM in Federal court by December 31 of the third year after the year in which you received the disputed services, drugs, or supplies or from the year in which you were denied precertification or prior approval. This is the only deadline that may not be extended.

OPM may disclose the information it collects during the review process to support their disputed claim decision. This information will become part of the court record.

You may not sue until you have completed the disputed claims process. Further, Federal law governs your lawsuit, benefits, and payment of benefits. The Federal court will base its review on the record that was before OPM when OPM decided to uphold or overturn our decision. You may recover only the amount of benefits in dispute.

NOTE: If you have a serious or life threatening condition (one that may cause permanent loss of bodily functions or death if not treated as soon as possible), and

- (a) We haven't responded yet to your initial request for care or preauthorization/prior approval, then call us at 1-888-687-6277 and we will expedite our review; or
- (b) We denied your initial request for care or preauthorization/prior approval, then:
 - If we expedite our review and maintain our denial, we will inform OPM so that they can give your claim expedited treatment too, or
 - You may call OPM's Health Benefits Contracts Division 3 at 202/606-0755 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time.

Section 9. Coordinating benefits with other coverage

When you have other health coverage You must tell us if you or a covered family member have coverage under another group health plan or have automobile insurance that pays health care expenses without regard to fault. This is called “double coverage.”

When you have double coverage, one plan normally pays its benefits in full as the primary payer and the other plan pays a reduced benefit as the secondary payer. We, like other insurers, determine which coverage is primary according to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' guidelines.

When we are the primary payer, we will pay the benefits described in this brochure.

When we are the secondary payer, we will determine our allowance. After the primary plan pays, we will pay what is left of our allowance, up to our regular benefit. We will not pay more than our allowance.

•What is Medicare?

Medicare is a Health Insurance Program for:

- People 65 years of age and older.
- Some people with disabilities, under 65 years of age.
- People with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a transplant).

Medicare has two parts:

- Part A (Hospital Insurance). Most people do not have to pay for Part A. If you or your spouse worked for at least 10 years in Medicare-covered employment, you should be able to qualify for premium-free Part A insurance. (Someone who was a Federal employee on January 1, 1983 or since automatically qualifies). Otherwise, if you are age 65 or older, you may be able to buy it. Contact 1-800-MEDICARE for more information.
- Part B (Medical Insurance). Most people pay monthly for Part B. Generally, Part B premiums are withheld from your monthly Social Security check or your retirement check.

Should I enroll in Medicare?

The decision to enroll in Medicare is yours. We encourage you to apply for Medicare benefits 3 months before you turn age 65. It's easy. Just call the Social Security Administration toll-free number 1-800-772-1213 to set up an appointment to apply. If you do not apply for one or both Parts of Medicare, you can still be covered under the FEHB Program.

If you can get premium-free Part A coverage, we advise you to enroll in it. Most Federal employees and annuitants are entitled to Medicare Part A at age 65 **without cost**. When you don't have to pay premiums for Medicare Part A, it makes good sense to obtain the coverage. It can reduce your out-of-pocket expenses as well as costs to the FEHB, which can help keep FEHB premiums down.

Everyone is charged a premium for Medicare Part B coverage. The Social Security Administration can provide you with premium and benefit information. Review the information and decide if it makes sense for you to buy the Medicare Part B coverage.

If you are eligible for Medicare, you may have choices in how you get your health care. Medicare + Choice is the term used to describe the various health plan choices available to Medicare beneficiaries. The information in the next few pages shows how we coordinate benefits with Medicare, depending on the type of Medicare + Choice plan you have.

- **The Original Medicare Plan (Part A or Part B)**

The Original Medicare Plan (Original Medicare) is available everywhere in the United States. It is the way everyone used to get Medicare benefits and is the way most people get their Medicare Part A and Part B benefits now. You may go to any doctor, specialist, or hospital that accepts Medicare. The Original Medicare Plan pays its share and you pay your share. Some things are not covered under Original Medicare, like prescription drugs.

When you are enrolled in Original Medicare along with this Plan, you still need to follow the rules in this brochure and use our providers in order for us to cover your care. We will not waive any of our copayments or coinsurance.

Claims process when you have the Original Medicare Plan – You probably will never have to file a claim form when you have both our Plan and the Original Medicare Plan.

- When we are the primary payer, we process the claim first.
- When Original Medicare is the primary payer, Medicare processes your claim first. In most cases, your claims will be coordinated automatically and we will then provide secondary benefits for covered charges. You will not need to do anything. To find out if you need to do something to file your claims, call us at 1-888-687-6277 or send us questions via our website at www.mvphealthcare.com.

A. When you - or your covered spouse - are age 65 or over and have Medicare and you...

Medicare always makes the final determination as to whether they are the primary payer. The following chart illustrates whether Medicare or this Plan should be the primary payer for you according to your employment status and other factors determined by Medicare. It is critical that you tell us if you or a covered family member has Medicare coverage so we can administer these requirements correctly.

Primary Payer Chart		
A. When you - or your covered spouse - are age 65 or over and have Medicare and you...	The primary payer for the individual with Medicare is...	
	Medicare	This Plan
1) Are an active employee with the Federal government and... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an active employee		✓
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an annuitant	✓	
2) Are an annuitant and... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an annuitant	✓	
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an active employee		✓
3) Are a reemployed annuitant with the Federal government and your position is excluded from the FEHB (your employing office will know if this is the case)	✓*	
4) Are a reemployed annuitant with the Federal government and your position is not excluded from the FEHB (your employing office will know if this is the case) and... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an active employee		✓
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an annuitant	✓	
5) Are a Federal judge who retired under title 28, U.S.C., or a Tax Court judge who retired under Section 7447 of title 26, U.S.C. (or if your covered spouse is this type of judge)	✓*	
6) Are enrolled in Part B only, regardless of your employment status	✓ for Part B services	✓ for other services
7) Are a former Federal employee receiving Workers' Compensation and the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs has determined that you are unable to return to duty)	✓**	
B. When you or a covered family member...		
1) Have Medicare solely based on end stage renal disease (ESRD) and... • It is within the first 30 months of eligibility for or entitlement to Medicare due to ESRD (30-month coordination period)		✓
• It is beyond the 30-month coordination period and you or a family member are still entitled to Medicare due to ESRD	✓	
2) Become eligible for Medicare due to ESRD while already a Medicare beneficiary and... • This Plan was the primary payer before eligibility due to ESRD		✓ for 30-month coordination period
• Medicare was the primary payer before eligibility due to ESRD	✓	
C. When either you or your spouse are eligible for Medicare solely due to disability and you		
1) Are an active employee with the Federal government and... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an active employee		✓
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an annuitant	✓	
2) Are an annuitant and... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an annuitant	✓	
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an active employee		✓
D. Are covered under the FEHB Spouse Equity provision as a former spouse	✓	

* Unless you have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an active employee

** Workers' Compensation is primary for claims related to your condition under Workers' Compensation

- **Medicare + Choice**

If you are eligible for Medicare, you may choose to enroll in and get your Medicare benefits from a Medicare + Choice. These are health care choices (like HMOs) in some areas of the country. In most Medicare + Choice plans, you can only go to doctors, specialists, or hospitals that are part of the plan. Medicare + Choice plans provide all the benefits that Original Medicare covers. Some cover extras, like prescription drugs. To learn more about enrolling in a Medicare + Choice plan, contact Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or at www.medicare.gov.

If you enroll in a Medicare + Choice plan, the following options are available to you:

This Plan and another plan's Medicare + Choice plan: You may enroll in another plan's Medicare + Choice plan and also remain enrolled in our FEHB plan. We will still provide benefits when your Medicare + Choice plan is primary, even out of the managed care plan's network and/or service area (if you use our Plan providers), but we will not waive any of our copayments, coinsurance, or deductibles. If you enroll in a Medicare + Choice plan, tell us. We will need to know whether you are in the Original Medicare Plan or in a Medicare + Choice plan so we can correctly coordinate benefits with Medicare.

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in a Medicare + Choice plan: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in a Medicare + Choice plan, eliminating your FEHB premium. (OPM does not contribute to your Medicare + Choice plan premium.) For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to re-enroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next Open Season unless you involuntarily lose coverage or move out of the Medicare + Choice plan's service area.

TRICARE and CHAMPVA

TRICARE is the health care program for eligible dependents of military persons and retirees of the military. TRICARE includes the CHAMPUS program. CHAMPVA provides health coverage to disabled Veterans and their eligible dependents. If TRICARE or CHAMPVA and this Plan cover you, we pay first. See your TRICARE or CAMPVA Health Benefits Advisor if you have questions about these programs.

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in TRICARE or CHAMPVA: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in one of these programs, eliminating your FEHB premium. (OPM does not contribute to any applicable plan premiums.) For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to re-enroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next Open Season unless you involuntarily lose coverage under the program.

Workers' Compensation

We do not cover services that:

- You need because of a workplace-related illness or injury that the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) or a similar Federal or State agency determines they must provide; or

- OWCP or a similar agency pays for through a third party injury settlement or other similar proceeding that is based on a claim you filed under OWCP or similar laws.

Once OWCP or similar agency pays its maximum benefits for your treatment, we will cover your care. You must use our providers.

Medicaid

When you have this Plan and Medicaid, we pay first.

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in Medicaid or a similar State-sponsored program of medical assistance: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in one of these State programs, eliminating your FEHB premium. For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to re-enroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next Open Season unless you involuntarily lose coverage under the State program.

When other Government agencies are responsible for your care

We do not cover services and supplies when a local, State, or Federal Government agency directly or indirectly pays for them.

When others are responsible for injuries

When you receive money to compensate you for medical or hospital care for injuries or illness caused by another person, you must reimburse us for any expenses we paid. However, we will cover the cost of treatment that exceeds the amount you received in the settlement.

If you do not seek damages you must agree to let us try. This is called subrogation. If you need more information, contact us for our subrogation procedures.

Section 10. Definitions of terms we use in this brochure

Calendar year	January 1 through December 31 of the same year. For new enrollees, the calendar year begins on the effective date of their enrollment and ends on December 31 of the same year.
Coinsurance	Coinsurance is the percentage of our allowance that you must pay for your care. See page 13.
Copayment	A copayment is a fixed amount of money you pay when you receive covered services. See page 13.
Covered services	Care we provide benefits for, as described in this brochure.
Custodial care	Includes any service which can be learned and provided by an average individual who does not have medical training. Examples of custodial care include: help with walking or getting out of bed, or assistance in daily living activities such as feeding, dressing, and personal hygiene. Custodial care that lasts beyond 90 days could be considered Long Term Care. Please refer to the Long Term Care section in the back of this brochure.
Deductible	A deductible is a fixed amount of covered expenses you must incur for certain covered services and supplies before we start paying benefits for those services. See page 13.
Experimental or investigational services	<p>Services that are generally not accepted by informed health care providers in the United States as effective in treating the condition for which their use is being recommended.</p> <p>We will only provide coverage for these type of services if the proposed treatment has shown promising results in treating the underlying condition through a nationally recognized program, and a group of experts has reviewed the proposed treatment and thinks that it is appropriate.</p> <p>If an appeal agent, outside of our Plan approves coverage for experimental or investigational services for you, and you would be part of a scientific trial or test, than our Plan would only provide limited benefits for these services, and you would be responsible for the rest.</p>
Group health coverage	Coverage you are eligible to receive through your employer. This Plan is offered as group health coverage to you, and all other eligible employees of the Federal Government.
Medical necessity	Covered services that we determine are necessary to prevent, detect, correct, or cure conditions that cause you or a family member acute suffering, endanger your life, result in illness, interfere with your capacity for normal activity or threaten you with a significant medical handicap
Plan allowance	Plan allowance is the amount we use to determine our payment and your coinsurance for covered services. We determine and base our allowance on the reasonable and customary charge that most providers would bill you for the service, procedure or office visit in question. Our participating providers have agreed to accept payment from us in full – you and your family members are only responsible for your copay.
Us/We	Us and we refer to MVP Health Plan
You	You refers to the enrollee and each covered family member.

Section 11. FEHB facts

Coverage information

No pre-existing condition limitation

We will not refuse to cover the treatment of a condition that you had before you enrolled in this Plan solely because you had the condition before you enrolled.

Where you can get information about enrolling in the FEHB Program

See www.opm.gov/insure. Also, your employing or retirement office can answer your questions, and give you a *Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans*, brochures for other plans, and other materials you need to make an informed decision about your FEHB coverage. These materials tell you:

- When you may change your enrollment;
- How you can cover your family members;
- What happens when you transfer to another Federal agency, go on leave without pay, enter military service, or retire;
- When your enrollment ends; and
- When the next open season for enrollment begins.

We don't determine who is eligible for coverage and, in most cases, cannot change your enrollment status without information from your employing or retirement office.

Types of coverage available for you and your family

Self Only coverage is for you alone. Self and Family coverage is for you, your spouse, and your unmarried dependent children under age 22, including any foster children or stepchildren your employing or retirement office authorizes coverage for. Under certain circumstances, you may also continue coverage for a disabled child 22 years of age or older who is incapable of self-support.

If you have a Self Only enrollment, you may change to a Self and Family enrollment if you marry, give birth, or add a child to your family. You may change your enrollment 31 days before to 60 days after that event. The Self and Family enrollment begins on the first day of the pay period in which the child is born or becomes an eligible family member. When you change to Self and Family because you marry, the change is effective on the first day of the pay period that begins after your employing office receives your enrollment form. Benefits will not be available to your spouse until you marry.

Your employing or retirement office will **not** notify you when a family member is no longer eligible to receive health benefits, nor will we. Please tell us immediately when you add or remove family members from your coverage for any reason, including divorce, or when your child under age 22 marries or turns 22.

If you or one of your family members is enrolled in one FEHB plan, that person may not be enrolled in or covered as a family member by another FEHB plan.

Children's Equity Act

OPM has implemented the Federal Employees Health Benefits Children's Equity Act of 2000. This law mandates that you be enrolled for Self and Family coverage in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, if you are an employee subject to a court or administrative order requiring you to provide health benefits for your child(ren).

If this law applies to you, you must enroll for Self and Family coverage in a health plan that provides full benefits in the area where your children live or provide documentation to your employing office that you have obtained other health benefits coverage for your children. If you do not do so, your employing office will enroll you involuntarily as follows:

- If you have no FEHB coverage, your employing office will enroll you for Self and Family coverage in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan's Basic Option,
- if you have a Self only enrollment in a fee-for-service plan or in an HMO that serves the area where your children live, your employing office will change your enrollment to Self and Family in the same option of the same plan; or
- if you are enrolled in an HMO that does not serve the area where the children live, your employing office will change your enrollment to Self and Family in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan's Basic Option.

As long as the court/administrative order is in effect, and you have at least one child identified in the order who is still eligible under the FEHB Program, you cannot cancel your enrollment, change to Self Only, or change to a plan that doesn't serve the area in which your children live, unless you provide documentation that you have other coverage for the children. If the court/administrative order is still in effect when you retire, and you have at least one child still eligible for FEHB coverage, you must continue your FEHB coverage into retirement (if eligible) and cannot cancel your coverage, change to Self Only, or change to a plan that doesn't serve the area in which your children live as long as the court/administrative order is in effect. Contact your employing office for further information.

When benefits and premiums start

The benefits in this brochure are effective on January 1. If you joined this Plan during Open Season, your coverage begins on the first day of your first pay period that starts on or after January 1. If you changed plans or plan options during Open Season and you receive care between January 1 and the effective date of coverage under your new plan or option, your claims will be paid according to the 2004 benefits of your old plan or option. However, if your old plan left the FEHB Program at the end of the year, you are covered under that plan's 2003 benefits until the effective date of your coverage with your new plan. Annuitants' coverage and premiums begin on January 1. If you joined at any other time during the year, your employing office will tell you the effective date of coverage.

When you retire

When you retire, you can usually stay in the FEHB Program. Generally, you must have been enrolled in the FEHB Program for the last five years of your Federal service. If you do not meet this requirement, you may be eligible for other forms of coverage, such as Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC).

When you lose benefits

• When FEHB coverage ends

You will receive an additional 31 days of coverage, for no additional premium, when:

- Your enrollment ends, unless you cancel your enrollment, or
- You are a family member no longer eligible for coverage.

You may be eligible for spouse equity coverage or Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC, or a conversion policy (a non-FEHB individual policy).

- **Spouse equity coverage**

If you are divorced from a Federal employee or annuitant, you may not continue to get benefits under your former spouse's enrollment. This is the case even when the court has ordered your former spouse to supply health coverage to you. But, you may be eligible for your own FEHB coverage under the spouse equity law or Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC). If you are recently divorced or are anticipating a divorce, contact your ex-spouse's employing or retirement office to get RI 70-5, the *Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans for Temporary Continuation of Coverage and Former Spouse Enrollees*, or other information about your coverage choices. You can also download the guide from OPM's website, www.opm.gov/insure.

- **Temporary continuation of coverage (TCC)**

If you leave Federal service, or if you lose coverage because you no longer qualify as a family member, you may be eligible for Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC). For example, you can receive TCC if you are not able to continue your FEHB enrollment after you retire, if you lose your job, if you are a covered dependent child and you turn 22 or marry, etc.

You may not elect TCC if you are fired from your Federal job due to gross misconduct.

Enrolling in TCC. Get the RI 79-27, which describes TCC, and the RI 70-5, the *Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans for Temporary Continuation of Coverage and Former Spouse Enrollees*, from your employing or retirement office or from www.opm.gov/insure. It explains what you have to do to enroll.

- **Converting to individual coverage**

You may convert to a non-FEHB individual policy if:

- Your coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law ends (If you canceled your coverage or did not pay your premium, you cannot convert):
- You decided not to receive coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law; or
- You are not eligible for coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law.

If you leave Federal service, your employing office will notify you of your right to convert. You must apply in writing to us within 31 days after you receive this notice. However, if you are a family member who is losing coverage, the employing or retirement office will **not** notify you. You must apply in writing to us within 31 days after you are no longer eligible for coverage.

Your benefits and rates will differ from those under the FEHB Program; however, you will not have to answer questions about your health, and we will not impose a waiting period or limit your coverage due to pre-existing conditions.

Getting a Certificate of Group Health Plan Coverage

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 is a Federal law that offers limited Federal protections for health coverage availability and continuity to people who lose employer group coverage. If you leave the FEHB Program, we will give you a Certificate of Group Health Plan Coverage that indicates how long you have been enrolled with us. You can use this certificate when getting health insurance or other health care coverage. Your new plan must reduce or eliminate waiting periods, limitations, or exclusions for health related conditions based on the information in the certificate, as long as you enroll within 63 days of losing coverage under this plan. If you have been enrolled with us for less than 12 months, but were previously enrolled in other FEHB plans, you may also request a certificate from those plans. For more information, get OPM pamphlet RI 79-27. Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC) under the FEHB Program. See also the FEHB web site (www.opm.gov/insure/health); refer to the "TCC and HIPAA" frequently asked questions. These highlight HIPAA rules, such as the requirement that Federal employees must exhaust any TCC eligibility as one condition for guaranteed access to individual health coverage under HIPAA, and have information about Federal and State agencies you can contact for more information.

Two new Federal Programs complement FEHB benefits

Important information

OPM wants to be sure you know about two new Federal programs that complement the FEHB Program. First, the **Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Program**, also known as **FSAFEDS**, lets you set aside tax-free money to pay for health and dependent care expenses. The result can be a discount of 20 to more than 40 percent on services you routinely pay for out-of-pocket. Second, the **Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP)** covers long term care costs not covered under the FEHB.

The Federal Flexible Spending Account Program - *FSAFEDS*

- **What is an FSA?**

It is a tax-favored benefit that allows you to set aside pre-tax money from your paychecks to pay for a variety of eligible expenses. *By using an FSA, you can reduce your taxes while paying for services you would have to pay for anyway, producing a discount that can be over 40%!!*

There are two types of FSAs offered by the FSAFEDS Program:

Health Care Flexible Spending Account (HCFSA)

- Covers eligible health care expenses not reimbursed by this Plan, or any other medical, dental, or vision care plan you or your dependents may have
- Eligible dependents for this account include anyone you claim on your Federal income tax return as a qualified dependent under the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) definition and/or with whom you jointly file your Federal income tax return, even if you don't have self and family health benefits coverage. **Note:** The IRS has a broader definition than that of a "family member" than is used under the FEHB Program to provide benefits by your FEHB Plan.
- The maximum amount that can be allotted for the HCFSA is \$3,000 annually. The minimum amount is \$250 annually.

Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (DCFSA)

- Covers eligible dependent care expenses incurred so you can work, or if you are married, so you and your spouse can work, or your spouse can look for work or attend school full-time.
- Eligible dependents for this account include anyone you claim on your Federal income tax return as a qualified IRS dependent and/or with whom you jointly file your Federal income tax return.
- The maximum that can be allotted for the DCFSA is \$5,000 annually. The minimum amount is \$250 annually. **Note:** The IRS limits contributions to a Dependent Care FSA. For single taxpayers and taxpayers filing a joint return, the maximum is \$5,000 per year. For taxpayers who file their taxes separately with a spouse, the maximum is \$2,500 per year. The limit includes any child care subsidy you may receive

- **Enroll during Open Season**

You **must make an election** to enroll in an FSA during the FEHB Open Season. Even if you enrolled during the initial Open Season for 2003, you must make a new election to continue participating in 2004. Enrollment is easy!

- Enroll online anytime during Open Season (November 10 through December 8, 2003) at www.fsafeds.com.
- Call the toll-free number 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337) Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. eastern time and a FSAFEDS Benefit Counselor will help you enroll.

What is SHPS?

SHPS is a third-party administrator hired by OPM to manage the FSAFEDS Program. SHPS is the largest FSA administrator in the nation and will be responsible for enrollment, claims processing, customer service, and day-to-day operations of FSAFEDS.

Who is eligible to enroll?

If you are a Federal employee eligible for FEHB – even if you're not enrolled in FEHB– you can choose to participate in either, or both, of the flexible spending accounts. If you are not eligible for FEHB, you are not eligible to enroll for a Health Care FSA. However, almost all Federal employees are eligible to enroll for the Dependent Care FSA. The only exception is intermittent (also called when actually employed [WAE]) employees expected to work less than 180 days during the year.

Note: FSAFEDS is the FSA Program established for all Executive Branch employees and Legislative Branch employees whose employers signed on. Under IRS law, FSAs are not available to annuitants. In addition, the U.S. Postal Service and the Judicial Branch, among others, are Federal agencies that have their own plans with slightly different rules, but the advantages of having an FSA are the same no matter what agency you work for.

- **How much should I contribute to my FSA?**

Plan carefully when deciding how much to contribute to an FSA. Because of the tax benefits of an FSA, the IRS places strict guidelines on them. You need to estimate how much you want to allocate to an FSA because current IRS regulations require you forfeit any funds remaining in your account(s) at the end of the FSA plan year. This is referred to as the “use-it-or-lose-it” rule. You will have until April 29, 2004 to submit claims for your eligible expenses incurred during 2003 if you enrolled in FSAFEDS when it was initially offered. You will have until April 30, 2005 to submit claims for your eligible expenses incurred from January 1 through December 31, 2004 if you elect FSAFEDS during this Open Season.

The **FSAFEDS Calculator** at www.fsafeds.com will help you plan your FSA allocations and provide an estimate of your tax savings based on your individual situation.

- **What can my HCFSA pay for?**

Every FEHB health plan includes cost sharing features, such as deductibles you must meet before the Plan provides benefits, coinsurance or copayments that you pay when you and the Plan share costs, and medical services and supplies that are not covered by the Plan and for which you must pay. These out-of-pocket costs are summarized on page 13 and detailed throughout this brochure. Your HCFSA will reimburse you for such costs when they are for tax deductible medical care for you and your dependents that are NOT covered by this FEHB Plan or any other coverage that you have.

The IRS governs expenses reimbursable by a HCFSA. See Publication 502 for a comprehensive list of tax-deductible medical expenses. **Note: While you will see insurance premiums listed in Publication 502, they are NOT a reimbursable expense for FSA purposes.** Publication 502 can be found on the IRS Web site at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p502.pdf>. If you do not see your service or expense listed in Publication 502, please call a FSAFEDS Benefit Counselor at 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337), who will be able to answer your specific questions.

- **Tax savings with an FSA**

An FSA lets you allot money for eligible expenses *before* your agency deducts taxes from your paycheck. This means the amount of income that your taxes are based on will be lower, so your tax liability will also be lower. Without an FSA, you would still pay for these expenses, but you would do so using money remaining in your paycheck after Federal (and often state and local) taxes are deducted. The following chart illustrates a typical tax savings example:

Annual Tax Savings Example	With FSA	Without FSA
If your taxable income is:	\$50,000	\$50,000
And you deposit this amount into a FSA:	\$ 2,000	-\$0-
Your taxable income is now:	\$48,000	\$50,000
Subtract Federal & Social Security taxes:	\$13,807	\$14,383
If you spend after-tax dollars for expenses:	-\$0-	\$ 2,000
Your real spendable income is:	\$34,193	\$33,617
Your tax savings:	\$576	-\$0-

Note: This example is intended to demonstrate a typical tax savings based on 27% Federal and 7.65% FICA taxes. Actual savings will vary based upon in which retirement system you are enrolled (CSRS or FERS), as well as your individual tax situation. In this example, the individual received \$2,000 in services for \$1,424, a discount of almost 36%! You may also wish to consult a tax professional for more information on the tax implications of an FSA.

- **Tax credits and deductions**

You *cannot* claim expenses on your Federal income tax return if you receive reimbursement for them from your HCFSA or DCFSA. Below are some guidelines that may help you decide whether to participate in FSAFEDS.

Health care expenses

The HCFSA is tax-free from the first dollar. In addition, you may be reimbursed from the HCFSA at any time during the year for expenses up to the annual amount you've elected to contribute.

Only health care expenses exceeding 7.5% of your adjusted gross income are eligible to be deducted on your Federal income tax return. Using the example listed in the above chart, only health care expenses exceeding \$3,750 (7.5% of \$50,000) would be eligible to be deducted on your Federal income tax return. In addition, money set aside through a HCFSA is also exempt from FICA taxes. This exception is not available on your Federal income tax return.

Dependent care expenses

The DCFSA generally allows many families to save more than they would with the Federal tax credit for dependent care expenses. Note that you may only be reimbursed from the DCFSA up to your current account balance. If you file a claim for more than your current balance, it will be held until additional payroll allotments have been added to your account.

Visit www.fsafeds.com and download the Dependent Care Tax Credit Worksheet from the Quick Links box to help you determine what is best

for your situation. You may also wish to consult a tax professional for more details.

- **Does it cost me anything to participate in FSAFEDS?**

Probably not. While there is an administrative fee of \$4.00 per month for an HCFSAs and 1.5% of the annual election for a DCFSAs, most agencies have elected to pay these fees out of their share of employment tax savings. To be sure, check the FSAFEDS.com web site or call 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337). Also, remember that participating in FSAFEDS can cost you money if you don't spend your entire account balance by the end of the plan year and wind up forfeiting your end of year account balance, per the IRS "use-it-or-lose-it" rule.

- **Contact us**

To find out more or to enroll, please visit the **FSAFEDS Web site** at www.fsafeds.com, or contact SHPS by email or by phone. SHPS Benefit Counselors are available from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday.

- E-mail: fsafeds@shps.net
- Telephone: 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337)
- TTY: 1-800-952-0450 (for hearing impaired individuals that would like to utilize a text messaging service)

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program

It's important protection

Here's why you should consider enrolling in the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program:

- **FEHB plans do not cover the cost of long term care.** Also called "custodial care," long term care is help you receive when you need assistance performing activities of daily living – such as bathing or dressing yourself. This need can strike anyone at any age and the cost of care can be substantial.
- **The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program can help protect you from the potentially high cost of long term care.** This coverage gives you control over the type of care you receive and where you receive it. It can also help you remain independent, so you won't have to worry about being a burden to your loved ones.
- **It's to your advantage to apply sooner rather than later.** Long term care insurance is something you must apply for, and pass a medical screening (called underwriting) in order to be enrolled. Certain medical conditions will prevent some people from being approved for coverage. By applying while you're in good health, you could avoid the risk of having a change in health disqualify you from obtaining coverage. Also, the younger you are when you apply, the lower your premiums.
- **You don't have to wait for an open season to apply.** The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program accepts applications from eligible persons at any time. You will have to complete a full underwriting application, which asks a number of questions about your health. However, if you are a new or newly eligible employee, you (and your spouse, if applicable) have a limited opportunity to apply using the abbreviated underwriting application, which asks fewer questions. If you marry, your new spouse will also have a limited opportunity to apply using abbreviated underwriting. Qualified relatives are also eligible to apply with full underwriting.

To find out more and to request an application

Call 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337) (TTY 1-800-843-3557) or visit www.ltcfeds.com.

Index

Do not rely on this page; it is for your convenience and does not explain your benefit coverage.

- Accidental injury 38
- Allergy tests 19
- Alternative treatment 23
- Ambulance 30
- Anesthesia 27
- Autologous bone marrow transplant 26
- Biopsies** 24
- Blood and blood plasma 29
- Casts 24
- Changes for 2004 9
- Chemotherapy 19
- Childbirth 17
- Cholesterol tests 16
- Claims 14, 37, 39
- Coinsurance 13
- Colorectal cancer screening 16
- Congenital anomalies 24, 25
- Contraceptive devices and drugs 17, 36
- Coordination of benefits 45
- Covered charges 13
- Covered providers 10,11
- Crutches 22
- Deductible** 13
- Definitions 50
- Dental care 38, 39
- Diagnostic services 15
- Disputed claims review 43, 44
- Donor expenses (transplants) 27
- Dressings 29, 36
- Durable medical equipment (DME) 22
- Educational classes and programs 23
- Effective date of enrollment 53
- Emergency 31, 32, 37
- Experimental or investigational 50
- Eyeglasses 20
- Family planning 17, 18
- Fecal occult blood test 16
- General Exclusions 41
- Hearing services** 20
- Home health services 22
- Hospice care 30
- Home nursing care 22
- Hospital 28, 29
- Immunizations** 17, 37
- Infertility 18
- In-hospital physician care 28
- Inpatient Hospital Benefits 28
- Insulin 22, 36
- Laboratory and pathological services 16, 28
- Machine diagnostic tests** 15,16
- Magnetic Resonance Imagings (MRIs) 16
- Mail Order Prescription Drugs 36
- Mammograms 16
- Maternity Benefits 17
- Medically necessary 50
- Medicaid 49
- Medicare 48, 49, 50
- Members 49
- Mental Conditions/Substance Abuse Benefits 33, 34
- Newborn care 17
- Non-FEHB Benefits 40
- Nurse
 - Licensed Practical Nurse 22
 - Nurse Anesthetist 28
 - Registered Nurse 22, 37
- Nursery charges 17
- Obstetrical care** 17
- Occupational therapy 19
- Office visits 15
- Oral and maxillofacial surgery 26
- Orthopedic devices 21
- Out-of-pocket maximum 13
- Outpatient facility care 29, 34
- Oxygen 22, 24, 30
- Pap test 16
- Physical examination 16, 37
- Physical therapy 19
- Pre-admission testing 24
- Precertification 24
- Preventive care, adult 16
- Preventive care, children 17
- Prescription drugs 35, 36
- Preventive services 16, 17
- Prior approval 24
- Prostate cancer screening 16
- Prosthetic devices 21
- Psychologist 33
- Psychotherapy 33
- Radiation therapy** 19
- Rehabilitation therapies 19
- Renal dialysis 19
- Room and board 28
- Second surgical opinion 15
- Skilled nursing facility care 29
- Speech therapy 20
- Splints 28
- Sterilization procedures 17, 25
- Substance abuse 33, 34
- Surgery 24, 25
 - Anesthesia 27, 28, 29
 - Oral 26
 - Outpatient 24
 - Reconstructive 25
- Syringes 36
- Temporary continuation of coverage 53
- Transplants 26, 27
- Treatment therapies 19
- Vision services 20
- Well child care** 17
- Wheelchairs 22
- Workers' compensation 49
- X-rays** 16, 28, 38

NOTES:

NOTES:

NOTES:

NOTES:

Summary of benefits for the MVP Health Plan - 2004

- **Do not rely on this chart alone.** All benefits are provided in full unless indicated and are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure. On this page we summarize specific expenses we cover; for more detail, look inside.
- If you want to enroll or change your enrollment in this Plan, be sure to put the correct enrollment code from the cover on your enrollment form.
- We only cover services provided or arranged by Plan physicians, except in emergencies.

Benefits	You Pay	Page
Medical services provided by physicians:		
• Diagnostic and treatment services provided in the office.....	\$15 per office visit	15
Services provided by a hospital:		
• Inpatient	\$240 per admission copay (limited to one per person or three per family, per year)	28
• Outpatient.....	\$100 or 20% copay per surgery (which ever is less)	29
Emergency benefits:		
• In-area	\$15 per office visit or \$50 per Urgent Care Center or Hospital Emergency Room	32
• Out-of-area.....	Nothing	32
Mental health and substance abuse treatment.....	Regular cost sharing.	33
Prescription drugs:		35
Retail Pharmacy (up to a 30 day supply).....	\$5 Generic/\$20 Name Brand/\$40 Non-Formulary per prescription unit or refill	
Mail Order (up to a 90 day supply)	\$10 Generic/\$40 Name Brand/\$80 Non-Formulary per prescription unit or refill	
Dental Care		38
Preventive Care for children up to age 19	\$10 per office visit	
Accidental Injury.....	Nothing for physician services (see inpatient/outpatient hospital benefits above)	
Vision Care (one covered eye exam every 24 months)	\$15 per office visit	20
Special features: MVP After Hours Unit; Little Footprints; Out-area-student benefit; Travel benefit/services overseas		37
Protection against catastrophic costs (your out-of-pocket maximum)	Stated copays for covered benefits	13

2004 Rate Information for MVP Health Plan

Non-Postal rates apply to most non-Postal enrollees. If you are in a special enrollment category, refer to the FEHB Guide for that category or contact the agency that maintains your health benefits enrollment.

Postal rates apply to career Postal Service employees. Most employees should refer to the FEHB Guide for United States Postal Service Employees, RI 70-2. Different postal rates apply and special FEHB guides are published for Postal Service Nurses, RI 70-2B; and for Postal Service Inspectors and Office of Inspector General (OIG) employees (see RI 70-2IN).

Postal rates do not apply to non-career postal employees, postal retirees, or associate members of any postal employee organization who are not career postal employees. Refer to the applicable FEHB Guide.

Type of Enrollment	Code	Non-Postal Premium				Postal Premium	
		Biweekly		Monthly		Biweekly	
		Gov't Share	Your Share	Gov't Share	Your Share	USPS Share	Your Share

Eastern New York

Self Only	GA1	\$ 92.78	\$ 30.92	\$201.02	\$ 67.00	\$109.78	\$ 13.92
Self and Family	GA2	\$239.60	\$ 79.87	\$519.14	\$173.05	\$283.53	\$ 35.94

Central New York

Self Only	M91	\$105.21	\$ 35.07	\$227.96	\$ 75.98	\$124.50	\$ 15.78
Self and Family	M92	\$271.67	\$ 90.55	\$588.61	\$196.20	\$321.47	\$ 40.75

Mid-Hudson

Self Only	MX1	\$108.05	\$ 36.01	\$234.10	\$ 78.03	\$127.85	\$ 16.21
Self and Family	MX2	\$277.09	\$95.00	\$600.36	\$205.84	\$327.12	\$ 44.97

Vermont

Self Only	VW1	\$121.40	\$ 44.71	\$263.03	\$ 96.88	\$143.32	\$ 22.79
Self and Family	VW2	\$277.09	\$151.89	\$600.36	\$329.10	\$327.12	\$101.86