BENEFIT PLAN

Prepared Exclusively For
Government of the District of Columbia

PPO Medical Plan

What Your Plan Covers and How Benefits are Paid

Aetna Life Insurance Company
Booklet-Certificate

This Booklet-Certificate is part of the Group Insurance Policy between Aetna Life Insurance Company and the Policyholder

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*Defines the Terms Shown in Bold Type in the Text of This Document.

Preface *(GR-9N-02-005-01)*

Aetna Life Insurance Company (ALIC) is pleased to provide you with this *Booklet-Certificate*. Read this *Booklet-Certificate* carefully. The plan is underwritten by Aetna Life Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut (referred to as Aetna).

This *Booklet-Certificate* is part of the *Group Insurance Policy* between Aetna Life Insurance Company and the Policyholder. The *Group Insurance Policy* determines the terms and conditions of coverage. Aetna agrees with the Policyholder to provide coverage in accordance with the conditions, rights, and privileges as set forth in this *Booklet-Certificate*. The Policyholder selects the products and benefit levels under the plan. A person covered under this plan and their covered dependents are subject to all the conditions and provisions of the *Group Insurance Policy*.

The *Booklet-Certificate* describes the rights and obligations of you and Aetna, what the plan covers and how benefits are paid for that coverage. It is your responsibility to understand the terms and conditions in this *Booklet-Certificate*. Your *Booklet-Certificate* includes the *Schedule of Benefits* and any amendments or riders.

If you become insured, this *Booklet-Certificate* becomes your *Certificate of Coverage* under the *Group Insurance Policy*, and it replaces and supersedes all certificates describing similar coverage that Aetna previously issued to you.

Group Policyholder:	Government Of The District Of Columbia
Group Policy Number:	GP-725016
Control No.:	CN-863743
Effective Date:	January 1, 2014
Issue Date:	March 13, 2014
Booklet-Certificate Number:	1

Mark T. Bertolini
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

Aetna Life Insurance Company
(A Stock Company)

Important Information Regarding Availability of Coverage *(GR-9N 02-005 02)*

No services are covered under this *Booklet-Certificate* in the absence of payment of current premiums subject to the *Grace Period* and the *Premium* section of the *Group Insurance Policy*.

Unless specifically provided in any applicable termination or continuation of coverage provision described in this *Booklet-Certificate* or under the terms of the *Group Insurance Policy*, the plan does not pay benefits for a loss or claim for a health care, medical or dental care expense incurred before coverage starts under this plan.

This plan will not pay any benefits for any claims, or expenses incurred after the date this plan terminates.

This provision applies even if the loss, or expense, was incurred because of an accident, injury or illness that occurred, began or existed while coverage was in effect.

Please refer to the sections, "*Termination of Coverage (Extension of Benefits)*" and "*Continuation of Coverage*" for more details about these provisions.

Benefits may be modified during the term of this plan as specifically provided under the terms of the *Group Insurance Policy* or upon renewal. If benefits are modified, the revised benefits (including any reduction in benefits or elimination of benefits) apply to any expenses incurred for services or supplies furnished on or after the effective date of the plan modification. There is no vested right to receive any benefits described in the *Group Insurance Policy* or in this *Booklet-Certificate* beyond the date of termination or renewal including if the service or supply is furnished on or after the effective date of the plan modification, but prior to your receipt of amended plan documents.

Coverage for You and Your Dependents *(GR-9N-02-005-01)*

Health Expense Coverage *(GR-9N-02-020-02)*

Benefits are payable for covered health care expenses that are incurred by you or your covered dependents while coverage is in effect. An expense is "incurred" on the day you receive a health care service or supply.

Coverage under this plan is non-occupational. Only non-occupational injuries and non-occupational illnesses are covered.

Refer to the *What the Plan Covers* section of the *Booklet-Certificate* for more information about your coverage.

Treatment Outcomes of Covered Services *(GR-9N-02-020-02)*

Aetna is not a provider of health care services and therefore is not responsible for and does not guarantee any results or outcomes of the covered health care services and supplies you receive. Except for Aetna RX Home Delivery LLC, providers of health care services, including hospitals, institutions, facilities or agencies, are independent contractors and are neither agents nor employees of Aetna or its affiliates.

When Your Coverage Begins

(GR-9N 29-005 01-DC)

Throughout this section you will find information on who can be covered under the plan, how to enroll and what to do when there is a change in your life that affects coverage. In this section, "you" means the employee.

Who Can Be Covered

Employees

To be covered by this plan, the following requirements must be met:

- You will need to be in an "eligible class", as defined below; and
- You will need to meet the "eligibility date criteria" described below.

Determining if You Are in an Eligible Class *(GR-9N 29-005 01-DC)*

You are in an eligible class if:

- You are a retired employee of an employer participating in this plan, and you:
  - Retired before the effective date of this plan and were covered under the prior plan for health care coverage on the day before you retired; or
  - Were covered under this plan or another plan sponsored by your employer on the day before you retired; and
  - Retire under your employer's IRS-qualified retirement plan.

Determining if You Are in an Eligible Class *(GR-9N-29-005-02)*

You are in an eligible class if:

- You are a regular full-time employee, as defined by your employer.

Determining When You Become Eligible *(GR-9N-29-005-02)*

You become eligible for the plan on your eligibility date, which is determined as follows.

On the Effective Date of the Plan

If you are in an eligible class on the effective date of this plan, your coverage eligibility date is the effective date of the plan.

After the Effective Date of the Plan

If you are hired after the effective date of this plan, your coverage eligibility date is the date you are hired.

If you enter an eligible class after the effective date of this plan, your coverage eligibility date is the date you enter the eligible class.

Obtaining Coverage for Dependents *(GR-9N-29-010-02)*

Your dependents can be covered under your plan. You may enroll the following dependents:

- Your legal spouse; or
- Your domestic partner who meets the rules set by your employer; and

- Your dependent children; and
- Dependent children of your domestic partner.

Aetna will rely upon your employer to determine whether or not a person meets the definition of a dependent for coverage under the plan. This determination will be conclusive and binding upon all persons for the purposes of this plan.

Coverage for Domestic Partner

To be eligible for coverage, a domestic partner must meet the following criteria:

A domestic partner is a person who has registered in a state or local domestic partner registry with a covered person.

Coverage for Dependent Children *(GR-9N-29-010-06 DC)*

To be eligible for coverage, a dependent child must be under 26 years of age.

(GR-9N-29-010-06 DC)
An eligible dependent child includes:

- Your biological children.
- Your stepchildren.
- Your legally adopted children.
- Your foster children, including any children placed with you for adoption.
- Any children for whom you are responsible under court order.
- Your grandchildren in your court-ordered custody.
- Any other child with whom you have a parent-child relationship.

Coverage for a handicapped child may be continued past the age limits shown above. See *Handicapped Dependent Children* for more information.

Important Reminder
Keep in mind that you cannot receive coverage under this Plan as:

- Both an employee and a dependent; or
- A dependent of more than one employee.

How and When to Enroll *(GR-9N 29-015-02)*

Initial Enrollment in the Plan

You will be provided with plan benefit and enrollment information when you first become eligible to enroll. You will need to enroll in a manner determined by Aetna and your employer. To complete the enrollment process, you will need to provide all requested information for yourself and your eligible dependents. You will also need to agree to make required contributions for any contributory coverage. Your employer will determine the amount of your plan contributions, which you will need to agree to before you can enroll. Your employer will advise you of the required amount of your contributions and will deduct your contributions from your pay. Remember plan contributions are subject to change.

You will need to enroll within 31 days of your eligibility date. Otherwise, you may be considered a Late Enrollee. If you miss the enrollment period, you will not be able to participate in the plan until the next annual enrollment period, unless you qualify under a Special Enrollment Period, as described below.

If you do not enroll for coverage when you first become eligible, but wish to do so later, your employer will provide you with information on when and how you can enroll.

Newborns are automatically covered for 31 days after birth. To continue coverage after 31 days, you will need to

complete a change form and return it to your employer within the 31-day enrollment period.

Late Enrollment

If you do not enroll during the Initial Enrollment Period, or a subsequent annual enrollment period, you and your eligible dependents may be considered Late Enrollees and coverage may be deferred until the next annual enrollment period. If, at the time of your initial enrollment, you elect coverage for yourself only and later request coverage for your eligible dependents, they may be considered Late Enrollees.

You must return your completed enrollment form before the end of the next annual enrollment period.

However, you and your eligible dependents may not be considered Late Enrollees under the circumstances described in the "Special Enrollment Periods" section below.

Annual Enrollment

During the annual enrollment period, you will have the opportunity to review your coverage needs for the upcoming year. During this period, you have the option to change your coverage. The choices you make during this annual enrollment period will become effective the following year.

If you do not enroll yourself or a dependent for coverage when you first become eligible, but wish to do so later, you will need to do so during the next annual enrollment period, unless you qualify under one of the Special Enrollment Periods, as described below.

Special Enrollment Periods *(GR-9N-29-015-05)*

You will not be considered a Late Enrollee if you qualify under a Special Enrollment Period as defined below. If one of these situations applies, you may enroll before the next annual enrollment period.

Loss of Other Health Care Coverage

You or your dependents may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period if:

- You did not enroll yourself or your dependent when you first became eligible or during any subsequent annual enrollments because, at that time:
  - You or your dependents were covered under other creditable coverage; and
  - You refused coverage and stated, in writing, at the time you refused coverage that the reason was that you or your dependents had other creditable coverage; and
- You or your dependents are no longer eligible for other creditable coverage because of one of the following:
  - The end of your employment;
  - A reduction in your hours of employment (for example, moving from a full-time to part-time position);
  - The ending of the other plan's coverage;
  - Death;
  - Divorce or legal separation;
  - Employer contributions toward that coverage have ended;
  - COBRA coverage ends;
  - The employer's decision to stop offering the group health plan to the eligible class to which you belong;
  - Cessation of a dependent's status as an eligible dependent as such is defined under this Plan;
  - With respect to coverage under Medicaid or an S-CHIP Plan, you or your dependents no longer qualify for such coverage; or
  - You or your dependents have reached the lifetime maximum of another Plan for all benefits under that Plan.
- You or your dependents become eligible for premium assistance, with respect to coverage under the group health plan, under Medicaid or an S-CHIP Plan.

You will need to enroll yourself or a dependent for coverage within:

- 31 days of when other creditable coverage ends;
- within 60 days of when coverage under Medicaid or an S-CHIP Plan ends; or
- within 60 days of the date you or your dependents become eligible for Medicaid or S-CHIP premium assistance.

Evidence of termination of creditable coverage must be provided to Aetna. If you do not enroll during this time, you will need to wait until the next annual enrollment period.

New Dependents

You and your dependents may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period if:

- You did not enroll when you were first eligible for coverage; and
- You later acquire a dependent, as defined under the plan, through marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption; and
- You elect coverage for yourself and your dependent within 31 days of acquiring the dependent.

Your spouse or child who meets the definition of a dependent under the plan may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period if:

- You did not enroll them when they were first eligible; and
- You later elect coverage for them within 31 days of a court order requiring you to provide coverage.

You will need to report any new dependents by completing a change form, which is available from your employer. The form must be completed and returned to Aetna within 31 days of the change. If you do not return the form within 31 days of the change, you will need to make the changes during the next annual enrollment period.

If You Adopt a Child

Your plan will cover a child who is placed for adoption. This means you have taken on the legal obligation for total or partial support of a child whom you plan to adopt.

Your plan will provide coverage for a child who is placed with you for adoption if:

- The child meets the plan's definition of an eligible dependent on the date he or she is placed for adoption; and
- You request coverage for the child in writing within 31 days of the placement;
- Proof of placement will need to be presented to Aetna prior to the dependent enrollment;
- Any coverage limitations for a preexisting condition will not apply to a child placed with you for adoption provided that the placement occurs on or after the effective date of your coverage;

When You Receive a Qualified Child Support Order

A Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) is a court order requiring a parent to provide health care coverage to one or more children. Your plan will provide coverage for a child who is covered under a QMCSO, if:

- The child meets the plan's definition of an eligible dependent; and
- You request coverage for the child in writing within 31 days of the court order.

Coverage for the dependent will become effective on the date of the court order. Any coverage limitations for a preexisting condition will not apply, as long as you submit a written request for coverage within the 31-day period.

If you do not request coverage for the child within the 31-day period, you will need to wait until the next annual enrollment period.

Under a QMCSO, if you are the non-custodial parent, the custodial parent may file claims for benefits. Benefits for such claims will be paid to the custodial parent.

When Your Coverage Begins *(GR-9N-29-025-01)*

Your Effective Date of Coverage

If you have met all the eligibility requirements, your coverage takes effect on the later of:

- The date you are eligible for coverage; or
- The date your enrollment form is received; or
- Your application is received and approved in writing by Aetna; and
- The date your required contribution is received by Aetna.

If your completed enrollment information is not received within 31 days of your eligibility date, the rules under the *Special or Late Enrollment Periods* section will apply.

Important Notice:
You must pay the required contribution in full.

Your Dependent's Effective Date of Coverage *(GR-9N 29-025-02)*

Your dependent's coverage takes effect on the same day that your coverage becomes effective, if you have enrolled them in the plan.

Note: New dependents need to be reported to Aetna within 31 days because they may affect your contributions. If you do not report a new dependent within 31 days of his or her eligibility date, the rules under the *Special or Late Enrollment Periods* section will apply.

Retired Employees *(GR-9N-29-025-01)*

In lieu of corresponding rules which apply to employees:

- If any health expense benefits are payable based on a "period of disability", the rule which applies to determine when a dependent's period of disability ends will also apply to you.
- The rule which applies to a dependent to determine if total disability exists when health expense insurance ends will also apply to you.

How Your Medical Plan Works

(GR-9N-08-005-01)

Common Terms

Accessing Providers

Precertification

It is important that you have the information and useful resources to help you get the most out of your Aetna medical plan. This Booklet-Certificate explains:

- Definitions you need to know;
- How to access care, including procedures you need to follow;
- What expenses for services and supplies are covered and what limits may apply;
- What expenses for services and supplies are not covered by the plan;
- How you share the cost of your covered services and supplies; and
- Other important information such as eligibility, complaints and appeals, termination, continuation of coverage, and general administration of the plan.

Important Notes

- Unless otherwise indicated, "you" refers to you and your covered dependents.
- Your health plan pays benefits only for services and supplies described in this Booklet-Certificate as covered expenses that are medically necessary.
- This Booklet-Certificate applies to coverage only and does not restrict your ability to receive health care services that are not or might not be covered benefits under this health plan.
- Store this Booklet-Certificate in a safe place for future reference.

Common Terms *(GR-9N-08-010-01)*

Many terms throughout this Booklet-Certificate are defined in the *Glossary* section at the back of this document. Defined terms appear in bolded print. Understanding these terms will also help you understand how your plan works and provide you with useful information regarding your coverage.

About Your PPO Comprehensive Medical Plan *(GR-9N-08-020-01)*

This Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) medical plan provides coverage for a wide range of medical expenses for the treatment of illness or injury. It does not provide benefits for all medical care. The plan also provides coverage for certain preventive and wellness benefits. With your PPO plan, you can directly access any physician, hospital or other health care provider (network or out-of-network) for covered services and supplies under the plan. The plan pays benefits differently when services and supplies are obtained through network providers or out-of-network providers.

The plan will pay for covered expenses up to the maximum benefits shown in this Booklet-Certificate. Coverage is subject to all the terms, policies and procedures outlined in this Booklet-Certificate. Not all medical expenses are covered under the plan. Exclusions and limitations apply to certain medical services, supplies and expenses. Refer to the *What the Plan Covers*, *Exclusions*, *Limitations* and *Schedule of Benefits* sections to determine if medical services are covered, excluded or limited.

This PPO plan provides access to covered benefits through a network of health care providers and facilities. These network providers have contracted with Aetna, an affiliate or third party vendor to provide health care services and supplies to Aetna plan members at a reduced fee called the negotiated charge. This PPO plan is designed to lower your out-of-pocket costs when you use network providers for covered expenses. Your deductibles, copayments, and payment percentage will generally be lower when you use participating network providers and facilities.

You also have the choice to access licensed providers, hospitals and facilities outside the network for covered benefits. Your out-of-pocket costs will generally be higher. Deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance are usually higher when you utilize out-of-network providers. Out-of-network providers have not agreed to accept the negotiated charge and may balance bill you for charges over the amount Aetna pays under the plan.

Your out-of-pocket costs may vary between network and out-of-network benefits. Read your *Schedule of Benefits* carefully to understand the cost sharing charges applicable to you.

Availability of Providers

Aetna cannot guarantee the availability or continued participation of a particular provider. Either Aetna or any network provider may terminate the provider contract or limit the number of patients accepted in a practice. If the physician initially selected cannot accept additional patients, you will be notified and given an opportunity to make another selection.

Ongoing Reviews

Aetna conducts ongoing reviews of those services and supplies which are recommended or provided by health professionals to determine whether such services and supplies are covered benefits under this Booklet-Certificate. If Aetna determines that the recommended services or supplies are not covered benefits, you will be notified. You may appeal such determinations by contacting Aetna to seek a review of the determination. Please refer to the *Reporting of Claims* section of this Booklet-Certificate and the Complaints and Appeals Health Amendment included with this Booklet-Certificate.

To better understand the choices that you have with your PPO plan, please carefully review the following information.

How Your PPO Plan Works *(GR-9N-08-025-03 DC)*

Accessing Network Providers and Benefits

- You may select any network provider from the Aetna network provider directory or by logging on to Aetna's website www.aetna.com. You can search Aetna's online directory, DocFind®, for names and locations of physicians and other health care providers and facilities. You can change your health care provider at any time.
- If a service you need is covered under the plan but not available from a network provider, please contact Member Services at the toll-free number on your ID card for assistance.
- Certain health care services such as hospitalization, outpatient surgery and certain other outpatient services, require precertification with Aetna to verify coverage for these services. You do not need to precertify services provided by a network provider. Network providers will be responsible for obtaining necessary precertification for you. Since precertification is the provider's responsibility, there is no additional out-of-pocket cost to you as a result of a network provider's failure to precertify services. Refer to the *Understanding Precertification* section for more information.
- You will not have to submit medical claims for treatment received from network providers. Your network provider will take care of claim submission. Aetna will directly pay the network provider less any cost sharing required by you. You will be responsible for deductibles, coinsurance, and copayment, if any.
- You will receive notification of what the plan has paid toward your covered expenses. It will indicate any amounts you owe toward your deductible, copayment, coinsurance, or other non-covered expenses you have incurred. You may elect to receive this notification by e-mail, or through the mail. Call or e-mail Member Services if you have questions regarding your statement.

Cost Sharing For Network Benefits

Important Note:
You share in the cost of your benefits. Cost Sharing amounts and provisions are described in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

- You will need to satisfy any applicable deductibles before the plan will begin to pay benefits.

- For certain types of services and supplies, you will be responsible for any copayment shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*.
- After you satisfy any applicable deductible, you will be responsible for your coinsurance for covered expenses that you incur. Your coinsurance is based on the negotiated charge. You will not have to pay any balance bills above the negotiated charge for that covered service or supply. You will be responsible for your coinsurance up to the maximum out-of-pocket limit applicable to your plan.
- Once you satisfy any applicable maximum out-of-pocket limit, the plan will pay 100% of the covered expenses that apply toward the limit for the rest of the Calendar Year. Certain designated out-of-pocket expenses may not apply to the maximum out-of-pocket limit. Refer to your *Schedule of Benefits* section for information on what specific limits, apply to your plan.
- The plan will pay for covered expenses, up to the maximums shown in the *What the Plan Covers* or *Schedule of Benefits* sections. You are responsible for any expenses incurred over the maximum limits outlined in the *What the Plan Covers* or *Schedule of Benefits* sections.
- You may be billed for any deductible, copayments, or coinsurance amounts, or any non-covered expenses that you incur.

Accessing Out-of-Network Providers and Benefits

- You have the choice to directly access physicians, hospitals or other health care providers that do not participate with the Aetna provider network. You will still be covered when you access out-of-network providers for covered benefits. Your out-of-pocket costs will generally be higher.
- Out-of-network providers have not agreed to accept the negotiated charge and may balance bill you for charges over the amount Aetna pays under the plan. Deductibles and coinsurance are usually higher when you utilize out-of network providers. Except for emergency services, Aetna will only pay up to the recognized charge.
- Precertification is necessary for certain services. When you receive services from an out-of-network provider, you are responsible for obtaining the necessary precertification from Aetna. Your provider may precertify your treatment for you; however you should verify with Aetna prior to the procedure, that the provider has obtained precertification from Aetna. If your treatment is not precertified, the benefit payable may be significantly reduced or may not be covered. This means you will be responsible for the unpaid balance of any bills. You must call the precertification toll-free number on your ID card to precertify services. Refer to the *Understanding Precertification* section for more information on the precertification process and what to do if your request for precertification is denied.
- When you use physicians and hospitals that are not in the network you may have to pay for services at the time they are rendered. You may be required to pay the charges and submit a claim form for reimbursement. You are responsible for completing and submitting claim forms for reimbursement of covered expenses you paid directly to an out-of-network provider. Aetna will reimburse you for a covered expense up to the recognized charge, less any cost sharing required by you.
- If your out-of-network provider charges more than the recognized charge, you will be responsible for any expenses incurred above the recognized charge. The recognized charge is the maximum amount Aetna will pay for a covered expense from an out-of-network provider.
- You will receive notification of what the plan has paid toward your medical expenses. It will indicate any amounts you owe towards your deductible, coinsurance, or other non-covered expenses you have incurred. You may elect to receive this notification by e-mail, or through the mail. Call or e-mail Member Services if you have questions regarding your statement.

Important Note
Failure to precertify will result in a reduction of benefits under this Booklet-Certificate. Please refer to the *Understanding Precertification* section for information on how to precertify and the precertification benefit reduction.

Cost Sharing for Out-of-Network Benefits

Important Note:
You share in the cost of your benefits. Cost Sharing amounts and provisions are described in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

- You must satisfy any deductibles before the plan begins to pay benefits.

- After you satisfy any applicable deductible, you will be responsible for any applicable coinsurance for covered expenses that you incur. You will be responsible for your coinsurance up to the maximum out-of-pocket limit applicable to your plan.
- Your coinsurance will be based on the recognized charge. If the health care provider you select charges more than the recognized charge, you will be responsible for any expenses above the recognized charge.
- Once you satisfy any applicable maximum out-of-pocket limit, the plan will pay 100% of the covered expenses that apply toward the limit for the rest of the Calendar Year. Certain designated out-of-pocket expenses may not apply to the maximum out-of-pocket limit. Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* section for information on what expenses do not apply and for the specific dollar limits that apply to your plan.
- The plan will pay for covered expenses, up to the maximums shown in the *What the Plan Covers* or *Schedule of Benefits* section. You are responsible for any expenses incurred over the maximum limits outlined in the *What the Plan Covers* or the *Schedule of Benefits* sections.

Understanding Precertification *(GR-9N-08-060 01)*

Precertification

Certain services, such as inpatient stays, certain tests, procedures and outpatient surgery require precertification by Aetna. Precertification is a process that helps you and your physician determine whether the services being recommended are covered expenses under the plan. It also allows Aetna to help your provider coordinate your transition from an inpatient setting to an outpatient setting (called discharge planning), and to register you for specialized programs or case management when appropriate.

You do not need to precertify services provided by a network provider. Network providers will be responsible for obtaining necessary precertification for you. Since precertification is the provider's responsibility, there is no additional out-of-pocket cost to you as a result of a network provider's failure to precertify services.

When you go to an out-of-network provider, it is your responsibility to obtain precertification from Aetna for any services or supplies on the precertification list below. If you do not precertify, your benefits may be reduced, or the plan may not pay any benefits. The list of services requiring precertification follows on the next page.

Important Note
Please read the following sections in their entirety for important information on the precertification process, and any impact it may have on your coverage.

The Precertification Process

Prior to being hospitalized or receiving certain other medical services or supplies there are certain precertification procedures that must be followed.

You are responsible for obtaining precertification. You or a member of your family, a hospital staff member, or the attending physician, must notify Aetna to precertify the admission or medical services and expenses prior to receiving any of the services or supplies that require precertification pursuant to this Booklet-Certificate in accordance with the following timelines:

Precertification should be secured within the timeframes specified below. To obtain precertification, call Aetna at the telephone number listed on your ID card. This call must be made:

For non-emergency admissions:	You, your physician or the facility will need to call and request precertification at least 14 days before the date you are scheduled to be admitted.
For an emergency outpatient medical condition:	You or your physician should call prior to the outpatient care, treatment or procedure if possible; or as soon as reasonably possible.
For an emergency admission:	You, your physician or the facility must call within 48 hours or as soon as reasonably possible after you have been admitted.
For an urgent admission:	You, your physician or the facility will need to call before you are scheduled to be admitted. An urgent admission is a hospital admission by a physician due to the onset of or change in an illness; the diagnosis of an illness; or an injury.
For outpatient non-emergency medical services requiring precertification:	You or your physician must call at least 14 days before the outpatient care is provided, or the treatment or procedure is scheduled.

Aetna will provide a written notification to you and your physician of the precertification decision. If your precertified expenses are approved the approval is good for 60 days as long as you remain enrolled in the plan.

When you have an inpatient admission to a facility, Aetna will notify you, your physician and the facility about your precertified length of stay. If your physician recommends that your stay be extended, additional days will need to be certified. You, your physician, or the facility will need to call Aetna at the number on your ID card as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the final authorized day. Aetna will review and process the request for an extended stay. You and your physician will receive a notification of an approval or denial.

If precertification determines that the stay or services and supplies are not covered expenses, the notification will explain why and how Aetna's decision can be appealed. You or your provider may request a review of the precertification decision pursuant to the Appeals Amendment included with this Booklet-Certificate.

Services and Supplies Which Require Precertification *(GR-9N-08-065-04 DC)*

Precertification is required for the following types of medical expenses:

Inpatient and Outpatient Care

- Stays in a hospital
- Stays in a skilled nursing facility
- Stays in a rehabilitation facility
- Stays in a hospice facility
- Outpatient hospice care
- Stays in a residential treatment facility for treatment of mental disorders, alcoholism or drug abuse treatment
- Home health care
- Private duty nursing care

How Failure to Precertify Affects Your Benefits *(GR-9N 08-070-01)*

A precertification benefit reduction will be applied to the benefits paid if you fail to obtain a required precertification prior to incurring medical expenses. This means Aetna will reduce the amount paid towards your coverage, or your expenses may not be covered. You will be responsible for the unpaid balance of the bills.

You are responsible for obtaining the necessary precertification from Aetna prior to receiving services from an out-of-network provider. Your provider may precertify your treatment for you; however you should verify with Aetna

prior to the procedure, that the provider has obtained precertification from Aetna. If your treatment is not precertified by you or your provider, the benefit payable may be significantly reduced or your expenses may not be covered.

How Your Benefits are Affected

The chart below illustrates the effect on your benefits if necessary precertification is not obtained.

If precertification is:	then the expenses are:
▪ requested and approved by Aetna	▪ covered.
▪ requested and denied.	▪ not covered, may be appealed.
▪ not requested, but would have been covered if requested.	▪ covered after a precertification benefit reduction is applied.*
▪ not requested, would not have been covered if requested.	▪ not covered, may be appealed.

It is important to remember that any additional out-of-pocket expenses incurred because your precertification requirement was not met will not count toward your deductible or Maximum Out-of-Pocket Limit.

*Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* section for the amount of precertification benefit reduction that applies to your plan.

Emergency and Urgent Care *(GR-9N-27-005-01-DC)*

You have coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, anywhere inside or outside the plan's service area, for:

- An emergency medical condition; or
- An urgent condition.

In Case of a Medical Emergency

When emergency care is necessary, please follow the guidelines below:

- Seek the nearest emergency room, or dial 911 or your local emergency response service for medical and ambulatory assistance. If possible, call your physician provided a delay would not be detrimental to your health.
- After assessing and stabilizing your condition, the emergency room should contact your physician to obtain your medical history to assist the emergency physician in your treatment.
- If you are admitted to an inpatient facility, notify your physician as soon as reasonably possible.

- If you seek care in an emergency room for a non-emergency condition, the plan will not cover the expenses you incur. Please refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for specific details about the plan. No other plan benefits will pay for non-emergency care in the emergency room unless otherwise specified under the plan.

Coverage for Emergency Medical Conditions

Refer to Coverage for Emergency Medical Conditions in the *What the Plan Covers* section.

Important Reminder
If you visit a hospital emergency room for a non-emergency condition, the plan will not cover your expenses, as shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*. No other plan benefits will pay for non-emergency care in the emergency room unless otherwise specified under the Plan.

In Case of an Urgent Condition *(GR-9N-27-010-01)*

Call your physician if you think you need urgent care. Network providers are required to provide urgent care coverage 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays. You may contact any physician or urgent care provider, in- or out-of-network, for an urgent care condition if you cannot reach your physician.

If it is not feasible to contact your network provider, please do so as soon as possible after urgent care is provided. If you need help finding a network urgent care provider you may call Member Services at the toll-free number on your I.D. card, or you may access Aetna's online provider directory at www.aetna.com.

Coverage for an Urgent Condition

Refer to Coverage for Urgent Medical Conditions in the *What the Plan Covers* section.

Non-Urgent Care

If you seek care from an urgent care provider for a non-urgent condition, (one that does not meet the criteria above), the plan will not cover the expenses you incur unless otherwise specified under the Plan. Please refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for specific plan details.

Important Reminder

If you visit an urgent care provider for a non-urgent condition, the plan will not cover your expenses, as shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*. No other plan benefits will pay for non-urgent care received at a hospital or an urgent care provider unless otherwise specified.

Follow-Up Care After Treatment of an Emergency or Urgent Medical Condition

Follow-up care is not considered an emergency or urgent condition and is not covered as part of any emergency or urgent care visit. Once you have been treated and discharged, you should contact your physician for any necessary follow-up care.

For coverage purposes, follow-up care is treated as any other expense for illness or injury. If you access a hospital emergency room for follow-up care, your expenses will not be covered and you will be responsible for the entire cost of your treatment. Refer to your *Schedule of Benefits* for cost sharing information applicable to your plan.

To keep your out-of-pocket costs lower, your follow-up care should be provided by a network provider.

You may use an out-of-network provider for your follow-up care. You will be subject to the deductible and coinsurance that apply to out-of-network expenses, which may result in higher out-of-pocket costs to you.

Important Notice

Follow up care, which includes (but is not limited to) suture removal, cast removal and radiological tests such as x-rays, should *not* be provided by an emergency room facility.

Requirements for Coverage *(GR-9N-09-005-01 DC)*

To be covered by the plan, services and supplies and prescription drugs must meet all of the following requirements:

1. The service or supply or prescription drug must be covered by the plan. For a service or supply or prescription drug to be covered, it must:

   - Be included as a covered expense in this Booklet-Certificate;
   - Not be an excluded expense under this Booklet-Certificate. Refer to the *Exclusions* sections of this Booklet-Certificate for a list of services and supplies that are excluded;
   - Not exceed the maximums and limitations outlined in this Booklet-Certificate. Refer to the *What the Plan Covers* section and the *Schedule of Benefits* for information about certain expense limits; and
   - Be obtained in accordance with all the terms, policies and procedures outlined in this Booklet-Certificate.

2. The service or supply or prescription drug must be provided while coverage is in effect. See the *Who Can Be Covered, How and When to Enroll, When Your Coverage Begins, When Coverage Ends* and *Continuation of Coverage* sections for details on when coverage begins and ends.

3. The service or supply or prescription drug must be medically necessary. To meet this requirement, the medical services, supply or prescription drug must be provided by a physician, or other health care provider, exercising prudent clinical judgment, to a patient for the purpose of preventing, evaluating, diagnosing or treating an illness, injury, disease or its symptoms. The provision of the service or supply must be:

   (a) In accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice;
   (b) Clinically appropriate, in terms of type, frequency, extent, site and duration, and considered effective for the patient's illness, injury or disease; and
   (c) Not primarily for the convenience of the patient, physician or other health care provider;
   (d) And not more costly than an alternative service or sequence of services at least as likely to produce equivalent therapeutic or diagnostic results as to the diagnosis or treatment of that patient's illness, injury, or disease.

For these purposes "generally accepted standards of medical practice" means standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed medical literature generally recognized by the relevant medical community, or otherwise consistent with physician specialty society recommendations and the views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas and any other relevant factors.

Important Note
Not every service, supply or prescription drug that fits the definition for medical necessity is covered by the plan. Exclusions and limitations apply to certain medical services, supplies and expenses. For example some benefits are limited to a certain number of days, visits or a dollar maximum. Refer to the *What the Plan Covers* section and the *Schedule of Benefits* for the plan limits and maximums.

What The Plan Covers

(GR-9N-11-005-01-DC)

Wellness

Physician Services

Hospital Expenses

Other Medical Expenses

PPO Medical Plan

Many preventive and routine medical expenses as well as expenses incurred for a serious illness or injury are covered. This section describes which expenses are covered expenses. Only expenses incurred for the services and supplies shown in this section are covered expenses. Limitations and exclusions apply.

Preventive Care

This section on Preventive Care describes the covered expenses for services and supplies provided when you are well.

Important Notes:

1. The recommendations and guidelines of the:
   - Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
   - United States Preventive Services Task Force; and
   - Health Resources and Services Administration;

   as referenced throughout this *Preventive Care* section may be updated periodically. This Plan is subject to updated recommendations or guidelines that are issued by these organizations beginning on the first day of the plan year, one year after the recommendation or guideline is issued.

2. If any *diagnostic* x-rays, lab, or other tests or procedures are ordered, or given, in connection with any of the *Preventive Care* benefits described below, those tests or procedures will *not* be covered as *Preventive Care* benefits. Those tests and procedures that are **covered expenses** will be subject to the cost-sharing that applies to those specific services under this Plan.

3. Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for information about cost-sharing and maximums that apply to *Preventive Care* benefits.

Routine Physical Exams

Covered expenses include charges made by your physician for routine physical exams. A routine exam is a medical exam given by a physician for a reason other than to diagnose or treat a suspected or identified illness or injury, and also includes:

- Radiological services, X-rays, lab and other tests given in connection with the exam; and
- Immunizations for infectious diseases and the materials for administration of immunizations as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control; and
- Testing for Tuberculosis.

Covered expenses for children from birth to age 18 also include:

- An initial hospital check up and well child visits in accordance with the prevailing clinical standards of the American Academy of Pediatric Physicians.

Unless specified above, not covered under this benefit are charges for:

- Services which are covered to any extent under any other part of this plan;
- Services which are for diagnosis or treatment of a suspected or identified illness or injury;
- Exams given during your stay for medical care;
- Services not given by a physician or under his or her direction;
- Psychiatric, psychological, personality or emotional testing or exams.

Important Reminder
Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about any applicable deductibles, coinsurance, benefit maximums and frequency and age limits for physical exams.

Routine Cancer Screenings

Covered expenses include charges incurred for routine cancer screening as follows:

- A baseline mammogram;
- An annual mammogram screening;
- 1 cervical cytological screening every -12 months;
- 1 gynecological exam every 12 months; and
- 1 digital rectal exam and 1 prostate specific antigen (PSA) test every 12 months for covered males age 40 and older.

Mammograms and cervical cytologic screenings are not subject to the calendar year deductible, if applicable.

The plan pays for the charges for colorectal cancer screening and laboratory testing you incur:

- if you are age 50 and over; or
- any age if you are considered to be at high risk for colorectal cancer; and
- When prescribed by a physician.

Colorectal cancer screening and laboratory testing includes:

- One fecal occult blood test (FOBT) every 12 months;
- One flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 years;
- One double contrast barium enema every 5 years;
- One colonoscopy every 10 years.

High risk for colorectal cancer means a covered person has:

- A family history of familial adenomatous polyposis; hereditary non-polyposis colon cancer; or breast; ovarian, endometrial or colon cancer or polyps; or
- Chronic inflammatory bowel disease; or
- A background, ethnicity or lifestyle that the physician believes puts the covered person at the elevated risk for colorectal cancer.

Preventive Health Care Services Expenses

Even though the charges are not incurred in connection with treatment of an illness or injury, the plan will pay for the preventive health care services listed below for physicians and laboratory services. Children who are residents of the District of Columbia, wards of the District and have special needs shall be covered for benefits until age 21. All other dependent children are covered from birth through age 17.

Preventive Health Care Services

These are services provided for a routine physical exam of the child. Included are:

- A review and written record of the child's complete medical history;
- Taking measurements and blood pressure;
- Developmental and behavioral assessment;
- Vision Screening;
- Hearing screening, including a newborn hearing screening before discharged from the hospital, by an audiologists, otalaryngologists, or other qualified person, which shall include at least one of the following tests:
  - Auditory brain stem response;
  - Otoacustic emissions; or
  - Other appropriate nationally recognized, objective physiological screening tests.
- Appropriate Immunizations;
- Anticipatory guidance;
- Other diagnostic screening tests including:
  - One series of hereditary and metabolic tests performed at birth;
  - Urinalysis, tuberculin test, and blood test such as hematocrit and hemoglobin tests, and tests to screen for sickle hemoglobinopathy.
- Counseling and guidance of the child and the child's parents or guardian on the results of the physical exam; and
- Necessary care and treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects, birth abnormalities and prematurity.

Covered expenses will only include charges incurred for:

- An exam performed at birth;
- All exams performed during the first 12 years of the child's life;
- 3 exams performed during each year of life thereafter up to age 21, as defined by the District of Columbia above; otherwise through age 17.

This preventive health services benefit does *not* cover:

- Diagnosis or treatment of injury or illness (whether suspected or identified);
- Exams given during your stay in a hospital or other facility, excepts are provided above;
- Medicines, drugs, appliances, equipment or supplies, except as provided above;
- Dental exams;
- Exams related in any way to employment; or
- Pre-marital exams.

Family Planning Services *(GR-9N-11-005-01-DC)*

Covered expenses include charges for certain contraceptive and family planning services, even though not provided to treat an illness or injury. Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for any frequency limits that apply to these services, if not specified below.

Contraception Services
Covered expenses include charges for contraceptive services and supplies provided on an outpatient basis, including:

- Contraceptive drugs and contraceptive devices prescribed by a physician provided they have been approved by the Federal Drug Administration;
- Related outpatient services such as:
  - Consultations;
  - Exams;
  - Procedures; and
  - Other medical services and supplies.

Not covered are:

- Charges for services which are covered to any extent under any other part of the Plan or any other group plans sponsored by your employer; and
- Charges incurred for contraceptive services while confined as an inpatient.

Other Family Planning
Covered expenses include charges for family planning services, including:

- Voluntary sterilization.
- Voluntary termination of pregnancy.

The plan does *not* cover the reversal of voluntary sterilization procedures, including related follow-up care.

Also see section on pregnancy and infertility related expenses on a later page.

Vision Care Services *(GR-9N S-11-010-01)*
Covered expenses include charges made by a legally qualified ophthalmologist or optometrist for the following services:

- *Routine* eye exam: The plan covers expenses for a complete routine eye exam that includes refraction and glaucoma testing. A routine eye exam does not include a contact lens exam. The plan covers charges for one routine eye exam in any 12 consecutive month period.

Limitations
Coverage is subject to any applicable Calendar Year deductibles, copays and coinsurance percentages shown in your *Schedule of Benefits.*

Hearing Exam *(GR-9N 11-015-01)*
Covered expenses include charges for an audiometric hearing exam if the exam is performed by:

- A physician certified as an otolaryngologist or otologist; or
- An audiologist who:
  - Is legally qualified in audiology; or
  - Holds a certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology from the American Speech and Hearing Association (in the absence of any applicable licensing requirements); and
  - Performs the exam at the written direction of a legally qualified otolaryngologist or otologist.

The plan will not cover expenses for charges for more than one hearing exam for any 24-month period.

All covered expenses for the hearing exam are subject to any applicable deductible, copay and coinsurance shown in your *Schedule of Benefits*.

Physician Services *(GR 9N S 11-20 02)*

Physician Visits

Covered medical expenses include charges made by a physician during a visit to treat an illness or injury. The visit may be at the physician's office, in your home, in a hospital or other facility during your stay or in an outpatient facility. Covered expenses also include:

- Immunizations for infectious disease, but not if solely for your employment,
- Allergy testing, treatment and injections; and
- Charges made by the physician for supplies, radiological services, x-rays, and tests provided by the physician.

Surgery

Covered expenses include charges made by a physician for:

- Performing your surgical procedure;
- Pre-operative and post-operative visits; and
- Consultation with another physician to obtain a second opinion prior to the surgery.

Anesthetics

Covered expenses include charges for the administration of anesthetics and oxygen by a physician, other than the operating physician, or Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (C.R.N.A.) in connection with a covered procedure.

Important Reminder
Certain procedures need to be precertified by Aetna. Refer to *How the Plan Works* for more information about precertification.

Alternatives to Physician Office Visits *(GR-9N 11-020 02)*

Walk-In Clinic Visits

Covered expenses include charges made by walk-in clinics for:

- Unscheduled, non-emergency illnesses and injuries; and the administration of certain immunizations administered within the scope of the clinic's license.

E-Visits

Covered expenses include charges made by your network physician for a routine, non-emergency, medical consultation. You must make your E-visit through an Aetna authorized internet service vendor. You may have to register with that internet service vendor. Information about providers who are signed up with an authorized vendor may be found in the provider Directory or online in DocFind on www.Aetna.com or by calling the number on your identification card.

Hospital Expenses *(GR-9N-11-030 01)*

Covered medical expenses include services and supplies provided by a hospital during your stay.

Room and Board

Covered expenses include charges for room and board provided at a hospital during your stay. Private room charges that exceed the hospital's semi-private room rate are not covered unless a private room is required because of a contagious illness or immune system problem.

Room and board charges also include:

- Services of the hospital's nursing staff;
- Admission and other fees;

- General and special diets; and
- Sundries and supplies.

Other Hospital Services and Supplies

Covered expenses include charges made by a hospital for services and supplies furnished to you in connection with your stay.

Covered expenses include hospital charges for other services and supplies provided, such as:

- Ambulance services.
- Physicians and surgeons.
- Operating and recovery rooms.
- Intensive or special care facilities.
- Administration of blood and blood products, but not the cost of the blood or blood products.
- Radiation therapy.
- Speech therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy.
- Oxygen and oxygen therapy.
- Radiological services, laboratory testing and diagnostic services.
- Medications.
- Intravenous (IV) preparations.
- Discharge planning.

Outpatient Hospital Expenses *(GR-9N-11-030 01)*

Covered expenses include hospital charges made for covered services and supplies provided by the outpatient department of a hospital.

Important Reminders

The plan will only pay for nursing services provided by the hospital as part of its charge. The plan does *not* cover private duty nursing services as part of an inpatient hospital stay.

If a hospital or other health care facility does not itemize specific room and board charges and other charges, Aetna will assume that 40 percent of the total is for room and board charge, and 60 percent is for other charges.

Hospital admissions need to be precertified by Aetna. Refer to *How the Plan Works* for details about precertification.

In addition to charges made by the hospital, certain physicians and other providers may bill you separately during your stay.

Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about any applicable deductible, copay and coinsurance and maximum benefit limits.

Coverage for Emergency Medical Conditions

Covered expenses include charges made by a hospital or a physician for services provided in an emergency room to evaluate and treat an emergency medical condition.

The emergency care benefit covers:

- Use of emergency room facilities;
- Emergency room physicians services;
- Hospital nursing staff services; and
- Radiologists and pathologists services.

Please contact a network provider after receiving treatment for an emergency medical condition.

Important Reminder
With the exception of Urgent Care described below, if you visit a hospital emergency room for a non-emergency condition, the plan will not cover your expenses, as shown in the *Schedule of Benefits.* No other plan benefits will pay for non-emergency care in the emergency room.

Coverage for Urgent Conditions *(GR-9N 11-035 02 DC)*

Covered expenses include charges made by a hospital or urgent care provider to evaluate and treat an urgent condition.

Your coverage includes:

- Use of emergency room facilities when network urgent care facilities are not in the service area and you cannot reasonably wait to visit your physician;
- Use of urgent care facilities;
- Physicians services;
- Nursing staff services; and
- Radiologists and pathologists services.

Please contact a network provider after receiving treatment of an urgent condition.

If you visit an urgent care provider for a non-urgent condition, the plan will not cover your expenses, as shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*.

Emergency Department HIV Screening

Coverage is provided for the cost of voluntary HIV screening tests performed while receiving emergency medical services, other then HIV screening, in a hospital emergency room.

- Coverage is provided for one annual HIV screening performed in a hospital emergency room.
- Coverage is provided to reimburse the costs of administering such a test, all laboratory expenses to analyze the test, and the costs of communicating to the patient the results of the test and any applicable follow-up instructions for obtaining health care and supportive services; and
- This coverage shall not be subject to any annual or coinsurance deductible or any co-payment other than the co-payment that the insured would have to pay for the applicable hospital emergency department visit.

Alternatives to Hospital Stays *(GR-9N-11-040-01)*

Outpatient Surgery and Physician Surgical Services

Covered expenses include charges for services and supplies furnished in connection with outpatient surgery made by:

- A physician or dentist for professional services;
- A surgery center; or
- The outpatient department of a hospital.

The surgery must meet the following requirements:

- The surgery can be performed adequately and safely only in a surgery center or hospital and
- The surgery is not normally performed in a physician’s or dentist’s office.

Important Note
Benefits for surgery services performed in a physician's or dentist's office are described under Physician Services benefits in the previous section.

The following outpatient surgery expenses are covered:

- Services and supplies provided by the hospital, surgery center on the day of the procedure;
- The operating physician's services for performing the procedure, related pre- and post-operative care, and administration of anesthesia; and
- Services of another physician for related post-operative care and administration of anesthesia. This does not include a local anesthetic.

Limitations
Not covered under this plan are charges made for:

- The services of a physician or other health care provider who renders technical assistance to the operating physician.
- A stay in a hospital.
- Facility charges for office based surgery.

Birthing Center
Covered expenses include charges made by a birthing center for services and supplies related to your care in a birthing center for:

- Prenatal care;
- Delivery; and
- Postpartum care within 48 hours after a vaginal delivery and 96 hours after a Cesarean delivery.

Limitations
Unless specified above, not covered under this benefit are charges:

- In connection with a pregnancy for which pregnancy related expenses are not included as a covered expense.

See *Pregnancy Related Expenses* for information about other covered expenses related to maternity care.

Home Health Care *(GR-9N-11-050-01)*
Covered expenses include charges made by a home health care agency for home health care, and the care:

- Is given under a home health care plan;
- Is given to you in your home while you are homebound.

Home health care expenses include charges for:

- Part-time or intermittent care by an R.N. or by an L.P.N. if an R.N. is not available.
- Part-time or intermittent home health aid services provided in conjunction with and in direct support of care by an R.N. or an L.P.N.
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy.
- Part-time or intermittent medical social services by a social worker when provided in conjunction with, and in direct support of care by an R.N. or an L.P.N.
- Medical supplies, prescription drugs and lab services by or for a home health care agency to the extent they would have been covered under this plan if you had a hospital stay.

Benefits for home health care visits are payable up to the Home Health Care Maximum. Each visit by a nurse or therapist is one visit.

In figuring the Calendar Year Maximum Visits, each visit of up to 4 hours is one visit.

This maximum will not apply to care given by an R.N. or L.P.N. when:

- Care is provided within 10 days of discharge from a hospital or skilled nursing facility as a full-time inpatient; and
- Care is needed to transition from the hospital or skilled nursing facility to home care.

When the above criteria are met, covered expenses include up to 12 hours of continuous care by an R.N. or L.P.N. per day.

Coverage for Home Health Care services is not determined by the availability of caregivers to perform them. The absence of a person to perform a non-skilled or custodial care service does not cause the service to become covered. If the covered person is a minor or an adult who is dependent upon others for non-skilled care (e.g. bathing, eating, toileting), coverage for home health services will only be provided during times when there is a family member or caregiver present in the home to meet the person's non-skilled needs.

Limitations

Unless specified above, *not* covered under this benefit are charges for:

- Services or supplies that are not a part of the Home Health Care Plan.
- Services of a person who usually lives with you, or who is a member of your or your spouse's or your domestic partner's family.
- Services of a certified or licensed social worker.
- Services for Infusion Therapy.
- Transportation.
- Services or supplies provided to a minor or dependent adult when a family member or caregiver is not present.
- Services that are custodial care.

Important Reminders

The plan does *not* cover custodial care, even if care is provided by a nursing professional, and family member or other caretakers cannot provide the necessary care.

Home health care needs to be precertified by Aetna. Refer to *How the Plan Works* for details about precertification.

Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about any applicable home health care visit maximums.

Private Duty Nursing *(GR-9N S-11-065-01)*

Covered expenses include private duty nursing provided by a R.N. or L.P.N. if the person's condition requires skilled nursing care and visiting nursing care is not adequate. However, covered expenses will not include private duty nursing for any shifts during a Calendar Year in excess of the Private Duty Nursing Care Maximum Shifts. Each period of private duty nursing of up to 8 hours will be deemed to be one private duty nursing shift.

The plan also covers skilled observation for up to one four-hour period per day, for up to 10 consecutive days following:

- A change in your medication;
- Treatment of an urgent or emergency medical condition by a physician;
- The onset of symptoms indicating a need for emergency treatment;
- Surgery;
- An inpatient stay.

Limitations

Unless specified above, *not* covered under this benefit are charges for:

- Nursing care that does not require the education, training and technical skills of a R.N. or L.P.N.
- Nursing care assistance for daily life activities, such as:
  - Transportation;
  - Meal preparation;
  - Vital sign charting;
  - Companionship activities;
  - Bathing;
  - Feeding;
  - Personal grooming;
  - Dressing;
  - Toileting; and
  - Getting in/out of bed or a chair.
- Nursing care provided for skilled observation.
- Nursing care provided while you are an inpatient in a hospital or health care facility.
- A service provided solely to administer oral medicine, except where law requires a R.N. or L.P.N. to administer medicines.

Skilled Nursing Facility *(GR-9N-11-060-01)*

Covered expenses include charges made by a skilled nursing facility during your stay for the following services and supplies, up to the maximums shown in the *Schedule of Benefits*, including:

- Room and board, up to the semi-private room rate. The plan will cover up to the private room rate if it is needed due to an infectious illness or a weak or compromised immune system;
- Use of special treatment rooms;
- Radiological services and lab work;
- Physical, occupational, or speech therapy;
- Oxygen and other gas therapy;
- Other medical services and general nursing services usually given by a skilled nursing facility (this does not include charges made for private or special nursing, or physician's services); and
- Medical supplies.

Important Reminder

Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about any applicable skilled nursing facility maximums.

Admissions to a skilled nursing facility must be precertified by Aetna. Refer to *Using Your Medical Plan* for details about precertification.

Limitations

Unless specified above, *not* covered under this benefit are charges for:

- Charges made for the treatment of:
  - Drug addiction;
  - Alcoholism;
  - Senility;
  - Mental retardation; or
  - Any other mental illness; and
- Daily room and board charges over the semi private rate.

Hospice Care *(GR-9N S-11-070-01 DC)*

Covered expenses include charges made by the following furnished to you for hospice care when given as part of a hospice care program.

Facility Expenses

The charges made by a hospital, hospice or skilled nursing facility for:

- Room and Board and other services and supplies furnished during a stay for pain control and other acute and chronic symptom management; and
- Services and supplies furnished to you on an outpatient basis.

Outpatient Hospice Expenses

Covered expenses include charges made on an outpatient basis by a Hospice Care Agency for:

- Part-time or intermittent nursing care by a R.N. or L.P.N. for up to eight hours a day;
- Part-time or intermittent home health aide services to care for you up to eight hours a day.
- Medical social services under the direction of a physician. These include but are not limited to:
  - Assessment of your social, emotional and medical needs, and your home and family situation;
  - Identification of available community resources; and
  - Assistance provided to you to obtain resources to meet your assessed needs.
- Physical and occupational therapy; and
- Consultation or case management services by a physician;
- Medical supplies;
- Prescription drugs;
- Dietary counseling; and
- Psychological counseling.

Charges made by the providers below if they are not an employee of a Hospice Care Agency; and such Agency retains responsibility for your care:

- A physician for a consultation or case management;
- A physical or occupational therapist;
- A home health care agency for:
  - Physical and occupational therapy;
  - Part time or intermittent home health aide services for your care up to eight hours a day;
  - Medical supplies;
  - Prescription drugs;
  - Psychological counseling; and
  - Dietary counseling.

Limitations

Unless specified above, *not* covered under this benefit are charges for:

- Daily room and board charges over the semi-private room rate.
- Funeral arrangements.
- Pastoral counseling.
- Financial or legal counseling. This includes estate planning and the drafting of a will.
- Homemaker or caretaker services. These are services which are not solely related to your care. These include, but are not limited to: sitter or companion services for either you or other family members; transportation; maintenance of the house.

Important Reminders
Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about any applicable hospice care maximums.

Inpatient hospice care and home health care must be precertified by Aetna. Refer to *How the Plan Works* for details about precertification.

Other Covered Health Care Expenses *(GR-9N-11-080-01)*

Acupuncture

The plan covers charges made for acupuncture services provided by a physician, if the service is performed:

- As a form of anesthesia in connection with a covered surgical procedure.

Important Reminder
Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about any applicable acupuncture benefit maximum.

Ambulance Service *(GR-9N-11-080-01)*

Covered expenses include charges made by a professional ambulance, as follows:

Ground Ambulance

Covered expenses include charges for transportation:

- To the first hospital where treatment is given in a medical emergency.
- From one hospital to another hospital in a medical emergency when the first hospital does not have the required services or facilities to treat your condition.
- From hospital to home or to another facility when other means of transportation would be considered unsafe due to your medical condition.
- From home to hospital for covered inpatient or outpatient treatment when other means of transportation would be considered unsafe due to your medical condition. Transport is limited to 100 miles.
- When during a covered inpatient stay at a hospital, skilled nursing facility or acute rehabilitation hospital, an ambulance is required to safely and adequately transport you to or from inpatient or outpatient medically necessary treatment.

Air or Water Ambulance

Covered expenses include charges for transportation to a hospital by air or water ambulance when:

- Ground ambulance transportation is not available; and
- Your condition is unstable, and requires medical supervision and rapid transport; and
- In a medical emergency, transportation from one hospital to another hospital; when the first hospital does not have the required services or facilities to treat your condition and you need to be transported to another hospital; *and* the two conditions above are met.

Limitations

Not covered under this benefit are charges incurred to transport you:

- If an ambulance service is not required by your physical condition; or
- If the type of ambulance service provided is not required for your physical condition; or
- By any form of transportation other than a professional ambulance service.

Diagnostic and Preoperative Testing *(GR-9N-11-085-01)*

Diagnostic Complex Imaging Expenses

The plan covers charges made on an outpatient basis by a physician, hospital or a licensed imaging or radiological facility for complex imaging services to diagnose an illness or injury, including:

- C.A.T. scans;
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI);
- Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scans; and
- Any other outpatient diagnostic imaging service costing over $500.

Complex Imaging Expenses for preoperative testing will be payable under this benefit.

Limitations

The plan does not cover diagnostic complex imaging expenses under this part of the plan if such imaging expenses are covered under any other part of the plan.

Outpatient Diagnostic Lab Work and Radiological Services

Covered expenses include charges for radiological services (other than diagnostic complex imaging), lab services, and pathology and other tests provided to diagnose an illness or injury. You must have definite symptoms that start, maintain or change a plan of treatment prescribed by a physician. The charges must be made by a physician, hospital or licensed radiological facility or lab.

Important Reminder
Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about any deductible, coinsurance and maximum that may apply to outpatient diagnostic testing, and lab and radiological services.

Outpatient Preoperative Testing

Prior to a scheduled covered surgery, covered expenses include charges made for tests performed by a hospital, surgery center, physician or licensed diagnostic laboratory provided the charges for the surgery are covered expenses and the tests are:

- Related to your surgery, and the surgery takes place in a hospital or surgery center;
- Completed within 14 days before your surgery;
- Performed on an outpatient basis;
- Covered if you were an inpatient in a hospital;
- Not repeated in or by the hospital or surgery center where the surgery will be performed.
- Test results should appear in your medical record kept by the hospital or surgery center where the surgery is performed.

Limitations

The plan does not cover diagnostic complex imaging expenses under this part of the plan if such imaging expenses are covered under any other part of the plan.

- If your tests indicate that surgery should not be performed because of your physical condition, the plan will pay for the tests, however surgery will *not* be covered.

Important Reminder
Complex Imaging testing for preoperative testing is covered under the complex imaging section. Separate cost sharing may apply. Refer to your *Schedule of Benefits* for information on cost sharing amounts for complex imaging.

Durable Medical and Surgical Equipment (DME) *(GR-9N 11-090-01)*

Covered expenses include charges by a DME supplier for the rental of equipment or, in lieu of rental:

The initial purchase of DME if:

- Long term care is planned; and
- The equipment cannot be rented or is likely to cost less to purchase than to rent.

Repair of purchased equipment. Maintenance and repairs needed due to misuse or abuse are not covered.

Replacement of purchased equipment if:

- The replacement is needed because of a change in your physical condition; and
- It is likely to cost less to replace the item than to repair the existing item or rent a similar item.

The plan limits coverage to one item of equipment, for the same or similar purpose and the accessories needed to operate the item. You are responsible for the entire cost of any additional pieces of the same or similar equipment you purchase or rent for personal convenience or mobility.

Covered Durable Medical Equipment includes those items covered by Medicare unless excluded in the Exclusions section of this Booklet-Certificate. Aetna reserves the right to limit the payment of charges up to the most cost efficient and least restrictive level of service or item which can be safely and effectively provided. The decision to rent or purchase is at the discretion of Aetna.

Important Reminder
Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about durable medical and surgical equipment deductible, coinsurance and benefit maximums. Also refer to *Exclusions* for information about Home and Mobility exclusions.

Experimental or Investigational Treatment

Covered expenses include charges made for experimental or investigational drugs, devices, treatments or procedures, provided *all* of the following conditions are met:

- You have been diagnosed with cancer or a condition likely to cause death within one year or less;
- Standard therapies have not been effective or are inappropriate;
- Aetna determines, based on at least two documents of medical and scientific evidence, that you would likely benefit from the treatment;
- There is an ongoing clinical trial. You are enrolled in a clinical trial that meets these criteria:
- The drug, device, treatment or procedure to be investigated has been granted investigational new drug (IND) or Group c/treatment IND status;
- The clinical trial has passed independent scientific scrutiny and has been approved by an Institutional Review Board that will oversee the investigation;
- The clinical trial is sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) or similar national organization (such as the Food & Drug Administration or the Department of Defense) and conforms to the NCI standards;
- The clinical trial is not a single institution or investigator study unless the clinical trial is performed at an NCI-designated cancer center; and
- You are treated in accordance with protocol.

Pregnancy Related Expenses *(GR-9N-11-100-01)*

Covered expenses include charges made by a physician for pregnancy and childbirth services and supplies at the same level as any illness or injury. This includes prenatal visits, delivery and postnatal visits.

For inpatient care of the mother and newborn child, covered expenses include charges made by a Hospital for a minimum of:

- 48 hours after a vaginal delivery; and
- 96 hours after a cesarean section.
- A shorter stay, if the attending physician, with the consent of the mother, discharges the mother or newborn earlier.

Covered expenses also include charges made by a birthing center as described under Alternatives to Hospital Care.

Note: Covered expenses also include services and supplies provided for circumcision of the newborn during the stay.

Prosthetic Devices *(GR-9N 11-110-01)*

Covered expenses include charges made for internal and external prosthetic devices and special appliances, if the device or appliance improves or restores body part function that has been lost or damaged by illness, injury or congenital defect. Covered expenses also include instruction and incidental supplies needed to use a covered prosthetic device.

The plan covers the first prosthesis you need that temporarily or permanently replaces all or part of a body part lost or impaired as a result of disease or injury or congenital defects as described in the list of covered devices below for an

- Internal body part or organ; or
- External body part.

Covered expenses also include replacement of a prosthetic device if:

- The replacement is needed because of a change in your physical condition; or normal growth or wear and tear; or
- It is likely to cost less to buy a new one than to repair the existing one; or
- The existing one cannot be made serviceable.

The list of covered devices includes but is not limited to:

- An artificial arm, leg, hip, knee or eye;
- Eye lens;
- An external breast prosthesis and the first bra made solely for use with it after a mastectomy;
- A breast implant after a mastectomy;
- Ostomy supplies, urinary catheters and external urinary collection devices;
- Speech generating device;
- A cardiac pacemaker and pacemaker defibrillators; and
- A durable brace that is custom made for and fitted for you.

The plan will not cover expenses and charges for, or expenses related to:

- Orthopedic shoes, therapeutic shoes, foot orthotics, or other devices to support the feet, unless required for the treatment of or to prevent complications of diabetes; or if the orthopedic shoe is an integral part of a covered leg brace; or
- Trusses, corsets, and other support items; or
- any item listed in the *Exclusions* section.

Short-Term Rehabilitation Therapy Services *(GR-9N-11-120-01)*

Covered expenses include charges for short-term therapy services when prescribed by a physician as described below up to the benefit maximums listed on your *Schedule of Benefits*. The services have to be performed by:

- A licensed or certified physical, occupational or speech therapist;
- A hospital, skilled nursing facility, or hospice facility; or
- A physician.

Charges for the following short term rehabilitation expenses are covered:

Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Benefits.

- Cardiac rehabilitation benefits are available as part of an inpatient hospital stay. A limited course of outpatient cardiac rehabilitation is covered when following angioplasty, cardiovascular surgery, congestive heart failure or myocardial infarction. The plan will cover charges in accordance with a treatment plan as determined by your risk level when recommended by a physician. This course of treatment is limited to a maximum of 36 sessions in a 12 week period.
- Pulmonary rehabilitation benefits are available as part of an inpatient hospital stay. A limited course of outpatient pulmonary rehabilitation is covered for the treatment of reversible pulmonary disease states. This course of treatment is limited to a maximum of 36 hours or a six week period.

Outpatient Cognitive Therapy, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy Rehabilitation Benefits.

Coverage is subject to the limits, if any, shown on the *Schedule of Benefits.* Inpatient rehabilitation benefits for the services listed will be paid as part of your Inpatient Hospital and Skilled Nursing Facility benefits provision in this Booklet-Certificate.

- Physical therapy is covered for non-chronic conditions and acute illnesses and injuries, provided the therapy expects to significantly improve, develop or restore physical functions lost or impaired as a result of an acute illness, injury or surgical procedure. Physical therapy does not include educational training or services designed to develop physical function.
- Occupational therapy (except for vocational rehabilitation or employment counseling) is covered for non-chronic conditions and acute illnesses and injuries, provided the therapy expects to significantly improve, develop or restore physical functions lost or impaired as a result of an acute illness, injury or surgical procedure, or to relearn skills to significantly improve independence in the activities of daily living. Occupational therapy does not include educational training or services designed to develop physical function.
- Speech therapy is covered for non-chronic conditions and acute illnesses and injuries and expected to restore the speech function or correct a speech impairment resulting from illness or injury; or for delays in speech function development as a result of a gross anatomical defect present at birth. Speech function is the ability to express thoughts, speak words and form sentences. Speech impairment is difficulty with expressing one's thoughts with spoken words.
- Cognitive therapy associated with physical rehabilitation is covered when the cognitive deficits have been acquired as a result of neurologic impairment due to trauma, stroke, or encephalopathy, and when the therapy is part of a treatment plan intended to restore previous cognitive function.

A "visit" consists of no more than one hour of therapy. Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for the visit maximum that applies to the plan. Covered expenses include charges for two therapy visits of no more than one hour in a 24-hour period.

The therapy should follow a specific treatment plan that:

- Details the treatment, and specifies frequency and duration; and
- Provides for ongoing reviews and is renewed only if continued therapy is appropriate.

Important Reminder
Refer to the *Schedule of Benefits* for details about the short-term rehabilitation therapy maximum benefit.

Unless specifically covered above, *not* covered under this benefit are charges for:

- Therapies for the treatment of delays in development, unless resulting from acute illness or injury, or congenital defects amenable to surgical repair (such as cleft lip/palate), are not covered. Examples of non-covered diagnoses include Down's syndrome, and Cerebral Palsy, as they are considered both developmental and/or chronic in nature.
- Any services which are covered expenses in whole or in part under any other group plan sponsored by an employer;
- Any services unless provided in accordance with a specific treatment plan;
- Services for the treatment of delays in speech development, unless resulting from illness, injury, or congenital defect;
- Services provided during a stay in a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or hospice facility except as stated above;
- Services not performed by a physician or under the direct supervision of a physician;
- Treatment covered as part of the Spinal Manipulation Treatment. This applies whether or not benefits have been paid under that section;
- Services provided by a physician or physical, occupational or speech therapist who resides in your home; or who is a member of your family, or a member of your spouse's family; or your domestic partner;
- Special education to instruct a person whose speech has been lost or impaired, to function without that ability. This includes lessons in sign language.

Reconstructive or Cosmetic Surgery and Supplies

Covered expenses include charges made by a physician, hospital, or surgery center for reconstructive services and supplies, including:

- Surgery needed to improve a significant functional impairment of a body part.
- Surgery to correct the result of an accidental injury, including subsequent related or staged surgery, provided that the surgery occurs no more than 24 months after the original injury. For a covered child, the time period for coverage may be extended through age 18.
- Surgery to correct the result of an injury that occurred during a covered surgical procedure provided that the reconstructive surgery occurs no more than 24 months after the original injury.

Note: Injuries that occur as a result of a medical (*i.e.*, non surgical) treatment are not considered accidental injuries, even if unplanned or unexpected.

- Surgery to correct a gross anatomical defect present at birth or appearing after birth (but not the result of an illness or injury) when
  - the defect results in severe facial disfigurement, or
  - the defect results in significant functional impairment and the surgery is needed to improve function

Reconstructive Breast Surgery

Covered expenses include reconstruction of the breast on which a mastectomy was performed, including an implant and areolar reconstruction. Also included is surgery on a healthy breast to make it symmetrical with the reconstructed breast and physical therapy to treat complications of mastectomy, including lymphedema.

Important Notice
A benefit maximum may apply to reconstructive or cosmetic surgery services. Please refer to the *Schedule of Benefits.*