

General policy exclusions

The following are not **covered services** under your policy:

Abortion

Services and supplies provided for an abortion except when the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest or if it places the woman's life in serious danger

Behavioral health treatment

Services for the following based on categories, conditions, or diagnoses, or equivalent terms as listed in the most recent version of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* of the American Psychiatric Association:

- **Stay** in a facility for treatment for dementia and amnesia without a behavioral disturbance that necessitates mental health treatment
- School and/or education service, including special education, remedial education, wilderness treatment programs, or any such related or similar programs
- Services provided in conjunction with school, vocation, work or recreational activities
- Transportation
- Sexual deviations and disorders except as described in the *Coverage and exclusions* section
- Tobacco use disorders and nicotine dependence except as described in the *Coverage and exclusions-Preventive care Counseling services* and *Tobacco cessation prescription and OTC drugs* sections

Blood, blood plasma, synthetic blood, blood derivatives or substitutes

Examples of these are:

- The provision of blood to the **hospital**, other than blood derived clotting factors
- Any related services including processing, storage or replacement expenses
- The service of blood donors, including yourself, apheresis or plasmapheresis
- The blood you donate for your own use, excluding administration and processing expenses

See the *Blood services* provision for medical **covered services**

Cosmetic services and plastic surgery

Any treatment, **surgery** (cosmetic or plastic), service or supply to alter, improve or enhance the shape or appearance of the body, except treatment related to congenital defects or anomalies of newborn, foster, and adopted children per state statute and reconstructive surgery following a mastectomy and where described under Reconstructive surgery and supplies and Reconstructive breast surgery and supplies in the *Coverage and exclusions* section

Court-ordered testing

Court-ordered testing or care unless **medically necessary**

Custodial care

Services and supplies meant to help you with activities of daily living or other personal needs. Examples of these are:

- Routine patient care such as changing dressings, periodic turning and positioning in bed
- Administering oral medications
- Care of stable tracheostomy (including intermittent suctioning)
- Care of a stable colostomy/ileostomy
- Care of stable gastrostomy/jejunostomy/nasogastric tube (intermittent or continuous) feedings
- Care of a bladder catheter, including emptying or changing containers and clamping tubing
- Watching or protecting you
- Respite care, adult or child day care, or convalescent care
- Institutional care, including **room and board** for rest cures, adult day care and convalescent care
- Help with walking, grooming, bathing, dressing, getting in or out of bed, going to the bathroom, eating or preparing foods
- Any other services that a person without medical or paramedical training could be trained to perform

Dental care for members age 19 and over

- Alveolectomy
- Apicoectomy (dental root resection)
- Augmentation and vestibuloplasty treatment of periodontal disease
- Cutting into gums and tissues of the mouth only when not associated with the removal, replacement, or repair of teeth
- Cutting out:
 - Teeth partly or completely impacted in the bone of the jaw
 - Teeth that will not erupt through the gum
 - Other teeth that cannot be removed without cutting into bone
 - The roots of a tooth without removing the entire tooth
 - Cysts, tumors, or other diseased tissues
- Dental implants
- Dental services related to the gums
- False teeth
- Orthodontics
- Root canal treatment
- Removal of soft tissue impactions
- Teeth - care, filling, removal, or replacement, including treatment of disease

Educational services

Examples of these are:

- Any service or supply for education, training or retraining services or testing. This includes:
 - Special education
 - Remedial education
 - Wilderness treatment programs (whether or not the program is part of a **residential treatment facility** or otherwise licensed institution)
 - Job training
 - Job hardening programs
- Educational services, schooling or any such related or similar program, including therapeutic programs within a school setting.

Examinations

Any health or dental examinations needed:

- Because a third party requires the exam. Examples include examinations to get or keep a job, and examinations required under a labor agreement or other contract.
- To buy insurance or to get or keep a license.
- To travel.
- To go to a school, camp, sporting event, or to join in a sport or other recreational activity.

Experimental or investigational

Experimental or investigational drugs, devices, treatments or procedures unless otherwise covered under clinical trials

Foot care

Unless medically necessary, services and supplies for:

- The treatment of calluses, bunions, toenails, hammertoes, fallen arches
- The treatment of weak feet, chronic foot pain or conditions caused by routine activities, such as walking, running, working or wearing shoes
- Supplies (including orthopedic shoes), foot orthotics, arch supports, shoe inserts, ankle braces, guards, protectors, creams, ointments and other equipment, devices and supplies

Growth/height care

Except for medically necessary care and treatment of medically diagnosed congenital defects and birth abnormalities for newborn, foster and adopted children

- A treatment, device, drug, service or supply to increase or decrease height or alter the rate of growth
- **Surgical procedures**, devices and growth hormones to stimulate growth

Hearing exams

Hearing exams performed for the evaluation and treatment of illness, injury or hearing loss

Maintenance care

Care made up of services and supplies that maintain, rather than improve, a level of physical or mental function, except for habilitation therapy services

Medical supplies – outpatient disposable

- Any outpatient disposable supply or device. Examples of these include:
 - Sheaths
 - Bags
 - Elastic garments
 - Support hose
 - Bandages
 - Bedpans
 - Home test kits not related to diabetic testing
 - Splints
 - Neck braces

- Compresses
- Other devices not intended for reuse by another patient

Missed appointments

Any cost resulting from a canceled or missed appointment

Nutritional support

- Any food item, including:
 - Infant formulas
 - Nutritional supplements
 - Vitamins
 - **Prescription** vitamins
 - Medical foods
 - Other nutritional items

Other non-covered services

- Services you have no legal obligation to pay
- Services that would not otherwise be charged if you did not have the coverage under the policy

Other primary payer

Payment for a portion of the charges that Medicare is responsible for as the primary payer. Another party does not include Medicaid.

Personal care, comfort or convenience items

Any service or supply primarily for your convenience and personal comfort or that of a third party

Services provided by a family member

Services provided by a spouse, civil union partner, domestic partner, parent, child, step-child, brother, sister, in-law, or any household member

Services, supplies and drugs received outside of the United States

Non-emergency medical services, outpatient **prescription** drugs or supplies received outside of the United States. They are not covered even if they are covered in the United States under this policy.

Sexual dysfunction and enhancement

Except treatment of an organic disease, any treatment, **prescription** drug, or supply to treat sexual dysfunction, enhance sexual performance or increase sexual desire, including:

- **Surgery, prescription** drugs, implants, devices or preparations to correct or enhance erectile function, enhance sensitivity or alter the shape of a sex organ
- Sex therapy, sex counseling, marriage counseling, or other counseling or advisory services

Strength and performance

Services, devices and supplies such as drugs or preparations designed primarily to enhance your strength, physical condition, endurance or physical performance

Therapies and tests

- Full body CT scans
- Hair analysis
- Hypnosis and hypnotherapy
- Massage therapy, except when used for physical therapy treatment
- Sensory or hearing and sound integration therapy

Tobacco cessation

Any treatment, drug, service or supply to stop or reduce smoking or the use of other tobacco products or to treat or reduce nicotine addiction, dependence or cravings, including, medications, nicotine patches and gum unless recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF).

This also includes:

- Counseling, except as specifically provided in the *Coverage and exclusions* section
- Hypnosis and other therapies
- Medications, except as specifically provided in the *Coverage and exclusions* section
- Nicotine patches
- Gum

Treatment in a federal, state, or governmental entity

Any care in a **hospital** or other facility owned or operated by any federal, state or other governmental entity unless coverage is required by applicable laws

Vision care for adults

- Routine vision exam provided by an ophthalmologist or optometrist including refraction and glaucoma testing
- Vision care services and supplies

Voluntary sterilization

- Reversal of voluntary sterilization procedures, including related follow-up care

Wilderness treatment programs

See *Educational services* in this section

Work related illness or injuries

Services or supplies for the treatment of an occupational **injury** or sickness which are paid under the North Carolina Workers' Compensation Act only to the extent that such services or supplies are:

- The liability of the employee
- Employer or workers' compensation insurance carrier according to final adjudication under the North Carolina Workers' Compensation Act or
- An order of the North Carolina Industrial Commission approving a settlement agreement under the North Carolina Workers' Compensation Act