

SECTION VII

Ambulance and Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services

Please refer to the Schedule of Benefits section of this [Contract; Policy] for Cost-Sharing requirements, day or visit limits, and any Preauthorization or Referral requirements that apply to these benefits. Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services and ambulance services for the treatment of an Emergency Condition do not require Preauthorization.

{Drafting Note: HMOs and gatekeeper EPO products may not impose preauthorization requirements on the member for in-network coverage.}

A. Emergency Ambulance Transportation.

1. Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services. We Cover Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services worldwide for the treatment of an Emergency Condition when such services are provided by an ambulance service.

“Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services” means the prompt evaluation and treatment of an Emergency Condition and/or non-airborne transportation to a Hospital. The services must be provided by an ambulance service issued a certificate under the New York Public Health Law. We will, however, only Cover transportation to a Hospital provided by such an ambulance service when a prudent layperson, possessing an average knowledge of medicine and health, could reasonably expect the absence of such transportation to result in:

- Placing the health of the person afflicted with such condition or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child in serious jeopardy, or in the case of a behavioral condition, placing the health of such person or others in serious jeopardy;
- Serious impairment to such person's bodily functions;
- Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part of such person; or
- Serious disfigurement of such person.

An ambulance service must hold You harmless and may not charge or seek reimbursement from You for Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services except for the collection of any applicable Copayment, Deductible or Coinsurance. In the absence of negotiated rates, We will pay a Non-Participating Provider the usual and customary charge for Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services, which shall not be excessive or unreasonable.

2. Emergency Ambulance Transportation. In addition to Pre-Hospital Emergency Services, We also Cover emergency ambulance transportation worldwide by a licensed ambulance service (either ground, water or air ambulance) to the nearest Hospital where Emergency Services can be performed. This coverage includes emergency

ambulance transportation to a Hospital when the originating Facility does not have the ability to treat Your Emergency Condition.

B. Non-Emergency Ambulance Transportation.

We Cover non-emergency ambulance transportation by a licensed ambulance service (either ground or air ambulance, as appropriate) between Facilities when the transport is any of the following:

- From a non-participating Hospital to a participating Hospital;
- To a Hospital that provides a higher level of care that was not available at the original Hospital;
- To a more cost-effective Acute care Facility; or
- From an Acute care Facility to a sub-Acute setting.

C. Limitations/Terms of Coverage.

- We do not Cover travel or transportation expenses, unless connected to an Emergency Condition or due to a Facility transfer approved by Us, even though prescribed by a Physician.
- We do not Cover non-ambulance transportation such as ambulette, van or taxi cab.
- Coverage for air ambulance related to an Emergency Condition or air ambulance related to non-emergency transportation is provided when Your medical condition is such that transportation by land ambulance is not appropriate; and Your medical condition requires immediate and rapid ambulance transportation that cannot be provided by land ambulance; and one (1) of the following is met:
 - The point of pick-up is inaccessible by land vehicle; or
 - Great distances or other obstacles (e.g., heavy traffic) prevent Your timely transfer to the nearest Hospital with appropriate facilities.