



Master Policy

St. Luke's Health Plan  
Small Group  
Health Care  
Benefits

Effective January 1, 2024  
[stlukeshealthplan.org](http://stlukeshealthplan.org)

*In the event there is a discrepancy between the information provided during the enrollment period and the contents of this certificate of coverage, the contents herein shall prevail.*

**St Luke's**<sup>™</sup>  
+ Health Plan

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# Important Information for Members about St. Luke's Health Plan

Welcome to St. Luke's Health Plan! These health care benefits are offered to individuals and families by [Group] the "Group" and St. Luke's Health Plan, Inc., an Idaho not-for-profit corporation focused on supporting uncomplicated care and affordable coverage for its members. St. Luke's Health Plan is a wholly owned subsidiary of St. Luke's Health System, which has been caring for Idahoans since 1902.

St. Luke's Health Plan is an Idaho licensed insurance company regulated by the Idaho Department of Insurance under the laws and rules of the State of Idaho. This Master Policy Agreement ("Agreement") sets forth the terms under which health care coverage will be provided under the Plan, including the rights and responsibilities of the contracting parties, the requirements for enrollment and eligibility, as well as the health care benefits, also called Medical Benefits, to which those enrolled under this Agreement are entitled.

This Agreement is made between the Group, St. Luke's Health Plan, and the individual designated herein as the Member. In consideration of timely payment of the premium, St. Luke's Health Plan agrees to provide the Medical Benefits as described in this Agreement subject to certain terms and conditions contained herein. This Agreement, including the endorsements and attached papers, if any, constitute the entire Master Policy. No change in this Agreement shall be valid until approved by the President or Chief Medical Officer of St. Luke's Health Plan. No one, including the Group, has the authority to change this Agreement or waive any of its provisions.

St. Luke's Health Plan Members are entitled to receive Medical Benefits while this Agreement is in effect, and Members, and their Dependents, if applicable, are properly enrolled and recognized by St. Luke's Health Plan. Members do not have any permanent or vested interest in any Medical Benefits under the Plan. Benefits may change as this Agreement is renewed or modified from year to year. Unless otherwise expressly stated in this Agreement, all Medical Benefits end when the Agreement ends. The Agreement begins on the effective date specified by the Group and terminates at the end of that Calendar/Plan Year. However, the Member's coverage is guaranteed renewable to the extent required by state or federal law.

St. Luke's Health Plan, in collaboration with the Group, establishes reasonable rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and protocols to help it in the administration of Medical Benefits. Members are subject to these administrative practices when receiving Medical Benefits, but they do not change the express provisions of this Agreement.

St. Luke's Health Plan has created a Member Services Advisory Panel to provide Member review of input on certain elements, such as Grievances and cost sharing elements. Participants are selected to represent geographic, demographic and product diversity.

If interested, please send the participation request in writing to:

Attn: Member Services Advisory Panel  
800 East Park Blvd.  
Boise, ID 83712

Medical Benefits are not assignable or transferable. Any attempted assignment or transfer by any eligible individual of the right to receive payment under the Plan will be invalid unless approved in advance in writing by St. Luke's Health Plan.

Any notice required of St. Luke's Health Plan under this Agreement will be sufficient if mailed to the Member at the address appearing in the Plan records. Notice to Dependents will be sufficient if given to the Member. Any notice to St. Luke's Health Plan will be sufficient if mailed to the principal office of St. Luke's Health Plan. All required notices must be sent by at least first-class mail.

St. Luke's Health Plan will not discriminate against any eligible Individuals based on race, sex, religion, national origin, or any other basis forbidden by law. St. Luke's Health Plan will not terminate any eligible individual because of his or her health status or the healthcare needs of the eligible individual or because he or she exercised any right under St. Luke's Health Plan's complaint resolution system.

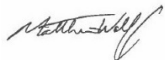
If Members have questions about their Medical Benefits, call Member Services at (833) 478-5853, or visit [stlukeshealthplan.org](http://stlukeshealthplan.org). Member Services can also provide Members with a Provider Directory and information about In-Network Providers, such as the name, address, phone number, professional qualifications, specialty, medical school attended, residency completed, and board certification status. The Provider Directory also includes information about receiving care after business hours. St. Luke's Health Plan offers assistance in languages other than English by calling (833) 478-5853. St. Luke's offers assistance for members with hearing impairments by calling 711.

St. Luke's Health Plan employees often respond to inquiries regarding coverage as part of their job responsibilities. These employees do not have the authority to extend or modify the Medical Benefits provided by the Plan.

- In the event of a discrepancy between information given by a St. Luke's Health Plan employee, St. Luke's Health Plan vendor, agent, broker, producer, or any other apparent or actual representative of St. Luke's Health Plan, and the written terms of this Agreement, the terms of this Agreement will control.
- Any changes or modifications to Medical Benefits must be provided in writing and signed by the President, or Chief Medical Officer of St. Luke's Health Plan.
- Administrative errors will not invalidate Medical Benefits otherwise in force or give rise to rights or benefits not otherwise provided for by the Plan.

Capitalized words used in this Agreement shall be defined as set forth in the Definitions Section herein, unless otherwise defined in the text of this Agreement.

Again, welcome to St. Luke's Health Plan.



Matthew Wolff  
President, St. Luke's Health Plan

# Contacting St. Luke's Health Plan

To reach St. Luke's Health Plan Member Services Members should use the number printed on their ID card or contact by mail, fax or online:

St. Luke's Health Plan  
Member Services Department  
PO Box 91010  
Seattle, WA 98111

Phone: (833) 478-5853

Fax: (800) 341-0662

Medical Pre-Authorization: (833) 591-2977

Pharmacy Benefit Customer Service: (833) 975-1281

Pharmacy Benefit Fax Number: (833) 850-0171

Mental Health/Chemical Dependency Pre-Authorization: (833) 613-1103

TTY: 711

Website: [stlukeshhealthplan.org](http://stlukeshhealthplan.org)

**Spanish (Español):** Para recibir ayuda en español, llame al (833) 478-5853.

**Arabic:** للمساعدة باللغة العربية، اتصل بالرقم (833) 478-5853.

**Swahili (Kiswahili):** Kwa usaidizi kwa Kiswahili, piga (833) 478-5853.

**Farsi:** برای دریافت کمک به زبان فارسی، با شماره (833) 478-5853 به تماس شوید.

**Russian (Русский):** Для получения помощи на русском языке обращайтесь по тел (833) 478-5853.

St. Luke's Health Plan's Member Services Department business hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mountain Time (MT). The office is closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day (4th of July), Labor Day, Thanksgiving and the day after, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. If the holiday falls on a Saturday, the office is closed on the preceding Friday; if the holiday falls on Sunday, the office is closed the following Monday.

Members can access Medical Benefit information or their specific Claim and enrollment status anytime at [stlukeshhealthplan.org](http://stlukeshhealthplan.org) or by calling the Member Services automated voice response system at (833) 478-5853.

## Notice of Privacy Practices

St. Luke's Health Plan is committed to protecting the privacy of personal, financial, and health information. Members can find detailed information on our privacy practices on our website at [stlukeshhealthplan.org](http://stlukeshhealthplan.org) or by calling (833) 478-5853.



# How to Obtain Health Services

## Member ID Card

The Member’s ID card identifies them as a Plan Member and contains important information about their coverage and Benefits. Members should present their ID card each time they receive care. If a Member loses their ID card, they may order a new one either by contacting Member Services at (833) 478-5853 or logging into [stlukeshealthplan.org](http://stlukeshealthplan.org). Under no circumstances should a Member give their ID card to another person for their use.

## Choosing a Provider

Members are entitled to seek covered Medical Benefit services from any Provider that they choose. However, to receive the highest level of Medical Benefit coverage, Members must receive care from an in-network or wrap network provider. Information about the St. Luke’s Health Partners, First Choice Health and First Health networks, including which providers are in those networks can be found here:

Networks	Network Status	State/Area	Phone	Website
St. Luke’s Health Partners	In- Network	Idaho Counties: Ada, Adams, Blaine, Boise, Camas, Canyon, Cassia, Custer, Elmore, Gem, Gooding, Jerome, Lemhi, Lincoln, Minidoka, Owyhee, Payette, Twin Falls, Valley, and Washington	(208) 381-1564	<a href="http://stlukeshealthplan.org/find-a-doctor">stlukeshealthplan.org/find-a-doctor</a>
First Choice Health Network, Inc.	Wrap Network	ID counties not served by St. Luke’s Health Partners, as well as all counties in AK, MT, OR, UT, SD, WA and WY	(800) 226-5116	<a href="http://fchn.com">fchn.com</a>
First Health	Wrap Network	All states/areas not served by St. Luke’s Health Partners or First Choice Health Network, Inc.	(800) 226-5116	<a href="http://myfirsthealth.com">myfirsthealth.com</a>

Additionally, please be aware that Providers who are not part of the St. Luke’s Health Partners, First Choice Health, or First Health networks are permitted to Balance Bill.

## Continuity of Care

When Members are receiving certain types of In-Network Care, and the treating In-Network Provider leaves the network, they may qualify as a Continuing Care Patient and benefit from certain protections. For Continuing Care Patients, St. Luke’s Health Plan must provide them notice that the treating In-Network Provider has left the network and an opportunity to elect to receive continued transitional care from that treating Provider. The Member’s election to receive

continued transitional care from the treating Provider will last until the earlier of 90 days from the date they received notice that the Provider was leaving the network or the date when they are no longer in need of continuing care. Continuity of care protections do not apply to Provider terminations if the termination is based on the Provider's failure to meet applicable quality standards or for fraud.

A Member is a Continuing Care Patient if they are: (1) undergoing active treatment for a chronic or acute medical condition from a Provider; (2) undergoing a course of institutional or inpatient care from a Provider; (3) scheduled to undergo non-elective surgery performed by a Provider (including postoperative care for such a surgery); (4) pregnant and undergoing a course of treatment for pregnancy by a Provider; or (5) determined to be terminally ill and receiving treatment for such illness from a Provider.

If the Member or their Dependent is a Continuing Care Patient of a departing Provider, St. Luke's Health Plan will provide them with 30 days' notice of the Provider's termination. However, if St. Luke's Health Plan does not receive adequate notice of a Provider's termination, St. Luke's Health Plan will notify them within 30 days of receiving notice that the Provider is no longer an In-Network Provider.

If the Member or their Dependent is a Continuing Care Patient and elect to receive continued transitional care from a departing Provider, St. Luke's Health Plan will continue to allow in-network benefits for the Provider until the completion of the care (not to exceed 90 days), or until the Member or their Dependent is transferred to another In-Network Provider or otherwise not in need of continued transitional care, whichever occurs first. However, if the member is receiving maternity care and they are in the second or third trimester when their treating Provider leaves the network, they may elect to be treated as a Continuing Care Patient through the first postpartum visit. During the period in which the Plan is required to continue to provide them in-network benefits, the departing Provider is not permitted to bill them for the difference between the billed charges and the Allowed Amount (also known as Balance Billing).

In all cases, to receive continued transitional care from a Provider terminated as an In-Network Provider, the Provider must not have been terminated for failure to meet applicable quality standards or for fraud.

## **Services Received Outside of the U.S.**

Members who are traveling outside of the United States and require treatment for an injury or medical care defined as Emergency Services in this Agreement, any payments they make for such medical services may be reimbursed, provided each of the following guidelines are met:

- The medical services were paid for at the time they were received.
- Upon returning to the United States, they submit an itemized statement of services that includes diagnosis and all charges paid. The exchange rate for foreign currency must also be noted on submitted forms.
- Charges submitted are for Emergency Services or Urgent Care as defined in this Agreement.

# Utilization Management

## Utilization Management

St. Luke's Health Plan engages in various elements of Utilization Management to help assure that the right health care is provided, at the right time, in the right setting. Utilization Management includes the evaluation of medical necessity, appropriateness, and efficiency of the use of health care services, procedures, and facilities. This is detailed more in the *Concurrent Review* and *Case Management* sections below. Nurses and/or physicians review and evaluate requests for medical services to assure that the medical services are appropriate for the Member's condition. The sections below detail other requirements and information about Utilization Management.

## Pre-Authorization Requirements

St. Luke's Health Plan requires Pre-Authorization for services specified in the *Medical Benefit Pre-Authorization List* below.

### Medical Benefit Pre-Authorization List

- Inpatient Admissions, including:
  - Behavioral/Mental Health
  - Chemical Dependency
  - Residential Treatment
  - Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation
  - Skilled Nursing Facilities
  - Long-Term Acute Care Facilities
- Gender affirming surgeries
- Bariatric revision surgeries
- Most medications over \$5,000 per year, including gene therapy, and immunotherapy
- Durable Medical Equipment:
  - Equipment with costs of more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), (including rent-to-purchase items)
  - Orthotic Devices and Prosthetic Appliances with costs of more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000)
- Blood clotting factors

**Emergency Services or Urgent Care Services never require a Pre-Authorization.** For urgent or emergent needs, please go to the nearest available facility for treatment.

## Maximizing Medical Benefits

St. Luke's Health Plan delivers care in its Service Area through a group of Providers known as the St. Luke's Health Partners network.

The Plan incentivizes Members to obtain care within the St. Luke's Health Partners network by giving them a higher level of coverage for services rendered by these Providers. If a Member or

their Provider believe the necessary care is not available within the St. Luke's Health Partners network, they can ask St. Luke's Health Plan for a higher level of coverage. If the Plan does not give express permission for the higher level of coverage, a lower level of coverage will apply for all Providers who are not part of the St. Luke's Health Partners network. A lower level of coverage results in a higher Cost Share for the Member. To request a higher level of coverage with a non-St. Luke's Health Partners Provider, Members should call (833) 478-5853.

## **Notification for Emergency Admissions**

Under the Plan terms, the Member or their Provider need to provide notice of any Emergency Admission by calling (800) 808-0450 within two (2) business days after the admission, or as soon as possible, unless there are extenuating circumstances (as determined by the Plan terms). Contact information for the Plan is also listed on their ID card.

## **Concurrent Review and Discharge Planning and Coordination**

All inpatient stays are subject to periodic clinical review ("Concurrent Review") to evaluate Medical Necessity of ongoing inpatient care. St. Luke's Health Plan will coordinate with the facility to ensure a safe discharge plan. If a Concurrent Review results in a determination that continued hospitalization or treatment in the facility is not Medically Necessary, further hospitalization or treatment in the facility will not be covered. St. Luke's Health Plan also assists with discharge planning and coordination for Members transferring from the hospital to home or another facility. Concurrent Review is conducted on the following admissions:

- Acute Care Admissions
- Skilled Nursing Facility and Long-Term Acute Care Admissions
- Behavioral/Mental Health
- Chemical Dependency
- Residential Treatment
- Rehabilitation (Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation)

## **Case Management**

Case management, through a case manager, monitors patients who need assistance and support while exploring coordination and/or alternative types of appropriate care. The case manager consults with the patient, family, and attending Provider to develop an individualized plan of care that may include:

- Offering personal support to the patient
- Contacting the family for assistance and support
- Monitoring hospital or skilled nursing facility stays
- Exploring alternative care options such as pain management without narcotics
- Assisting in obtaining any necessary equipment and services
- Providing guidance and information on available resources

At times, the case manager may identify a customized treatment plan such as an alternative to hospitalization or other high-cost care or making more efficient use of St. Luke's Health Plan's Medical Benefits. Such a customized plan might include services involving expenses not usually

covered or an exchange of benefits. The decision to provide alternative or customized benefits is at St. Luke's Health Plan's discretion. Member participation in Case Management, including any alternative or customized treatment plan, is voluntary. Members or their legal representative, the attending physician, and St. Luke's Health Plan must all agree to any such treatment plan. Once agreement is reached, the specific Medically Necessary services stated in the treatment plan will be reimbursed, subject to all Plan terms and conditions.

**Case management is a voluntary service.** There are no reductions of Medical Benefits or penalties if the patient and family choose not to participate. Each treatment is individually tailored to a specific patient and should not be seen as appropriate or recommended for any other patient, even one with the same diagnosis. The final decision on the course of treatment rests with patients and their providers.

## Evaluation of New Technology

A Member or a Provider can ask St. Luke's Health Plan to cover a new technology. Our Medical Management team is committed to being informed about the latest evidence, and research regarding new tests, medications, treatments, and devices, as well as new ways to use current procedures, medications, and devices. The Chief Medical Officer leads the research and review of the new technology based on written medical literature, evidence-based studies, and information received from clinical experts in the field. New technologies are approved for coverage based on standards established by the St. Luke's Health Plan. Requests to cover a new technology are considered on a case-by-case basis, and new technologies are approved for coverage based on standards established by St. Luke's Health Plan.

# Payment Provisions

## Highlights of Plan Provisions

- Medical Benefit coverage is greatest, and Out-of-Pocket Costs are the least, when Members choose a St. Luke's Health Partners Provider.
- Many Medical Benefits (Page 11) and generic medications are available for a zero dollar Copayment or a minimal Copayment after deductible to assure Members get the needed, appropriate care without a financial barrier.
- The Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible amount includes both Medical Benefits and Pharmacy Benefits (Page 25), so Members don't have to meet two deductible amounts.
- The payment for the Medical Benefit is based on the Allowed Amounts agreed upon by In-Network Providers.
- A Pre-Authorization is required only for those services listed on the *Medical Benefit Pre-Authorization List*. Pre-Authorization is NOT required for Emergency Services or Urgent Care Services.
- Services received from Providers in the Wrap Networks are paid based on the agreed-upon Allowed Amounts and apply to the Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible.
- Out-of-Network Providers are permitted to Balance Bill, meaning the Member may be responsible for the Provider's charges that exceed the Plan's Allowed Amount.

An Out-of-Network Provider is one who does not participate in any of the networks listed above (Page 4) and is not considered a Recognized No Surprises Provider. (See *No Surprises Act* section below)

- The Plan relies on the Qualifying Payment Amount to determine cost-sharing for certain services rendered by a Recognized No Surprises Provider, certain non-Emergency Services furnished by Out-of-Network Providers at certain in-network facilities, and out-of-network air ambulances.
- Claims are processed according to the diagnoses and services billed by the Provider(s). The Plan is not responsible for disputes regarding the services billed. If the Member has concerns about the diagnoses or services billed, they are responsible for resolving those concerns directly with the rendering Provider.
- Out-of-Network Providers who render a service in an in-network facility may not bill the Member for more than their Plan's in-network Cost-Sharing amount. This applies to Emergency Services, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These Providers cannot Balance Bill and may not ask them to give up their protections. If they receive services not listed above in an in-network facility, the Out-of-Network Provider cannot Balance Bill them, unless they give written consent and give up their protections against Balance Billing.
- Continuity of Care may apply when their Provider becomes out-of-network in the middle of their course of care. See "Continuity of Care" under *How to Obtain Health Services* section (Page 4) of this document for more information.

## Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible

The Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible is the amount the Member or their family must pay each Calendar/Plan Year before St. Luke's Health Plan will pay for covered Medical Benefit/Pharmacy Benefit services. Once the Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible is satisfied, Coinsurance amounts as noted in the *Benefits Outline of Coverage* apply. Until then, the amount due to a Provider is their responsibility.

This Plan offers a Maximum Plan Deductible, which means each individual must meet no more than the maximum Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible amount specified for an individual policy. A family must meet no more than the maximum Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible amount specified for the family's policy, regardless of the family's size. If the family meets its maximum Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible, then the Plan will pay for covered services for all covered individuals in the family, regardless of whether each individual has met his or her individual maximum Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible.

Payments for the following do **not** apply toward the Annual Medical/Pharmacy Deductible:

- Charges for non-covered services and treatment
- Charges for services that are denied as not Medically Necessary
- Charges that exceed the Usual, Customary and Reasonable (UCR) amount for out-of-network Medical Benefits, as determined by St. Luke's Health Plan
- Charges that exceed any applicable Medical Benefit maximum
- Charges for Claims denied for lack of Pre-Authorization
- Copayments
- In-Network preventive care

- Amounts paid by pharmaceutical company when the drug is managed under a copay accumulator program

## **Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

The Out-of-Pocket Maximum is the maximum amount the Member or their family will be required to pay in a Calendar/Plan Year for covered Medical Benefit services. Once a Dependent has reached the individual Out-of-Pocket Maximum, they will not be assessed any additional financial responsibility. Also, the family will be required to pay no more than the stated family maximum, regardless of family size.

Payments for the following do not apply toward the annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum:

- Charges of non-covered services and treatment
- Charges for services that are denied as not Medically Necessary
- Charges that exceed the Usual, Customary and Reasonable (UCR) amount for Out-of-Network services, as determined by St. Luke's Health Plan
- Charges that exceed any applicable Medical Benefit maximum
- Charges for Claims denied for lack of Pre-Authorization
- Charges for services paid by St. Luke's Health Plan at 100%
- Amounts paid by pharmaceutical company when the drug is managed under a copay accumulator program

**Be aware, in many circumstances Out-of-Network Providers can bill the Member for the difference between the amount charged by the Provider and the amount allowed by St. Luke's Health Plan, sometimes referred to as Balance Billing. These fees do not apply to Member's Out-of-Pocket Maximum.**



## Summary of Benefit Limits

Medical Benefit Maximums	
Chiropractic Spinal Manipulation	18 Visits Per Year
Hearing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aids/Appliances</li> </ul>	2 Hearing Aids Every 3 Years*  <i>*Hearing aids are covered for dependent children age 25 and younger only.</i>
Hospice Care	12 Months
Organ Transplants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transportation and lodging for covered organ transplants</li> </ul>	\$7,500 Per Year
Respite Care	10 Days Per Year
Skilled Nursing Facility	30 Days Per Year
Vision Care – Pediatrics Only	1 Vision Exam and 1 Pair Lenses/Frame Per Year

## Medical Benefits

All Medical Benefits are subject to Plan exclusions and limits. All Coinsurance, Deductibles and inpatient, outpatient or office visit Copayments apply. See *Payment Provisions, Benefits Outline of Coverage* and *Plan Exclusions and Limitations* for more details, as well as *Plan Definitions*. Coverage is provided only when **all** these conditions are met:

- The service or supply is listed as a covered Medical Benefit,
- Specific Medical Benefit limits or maximums are not exhausted or exceeded,
- All Pre-Authorization and Medical Benefit requirements are met (see *Pre-Authorization Requirements* for details),
- Member is eligible for coverage and enrolled in this plan at the time the service or supply is received, and
- The service or supply is considered *Medically Necessary* for a covered medical condition, as defined.

### Allergy Care

Medical Benefits include allergy tests, injections, and serums, though serum is covered only when received and administered within the Provider's office.

### Ambulance Services

The Plan covers Medically Necessary licensed ambulance transportation when the following conditions apply:



- The transportation is to the nearest available health care facility where Medically Necessary services can be provided;
- Other forms of transportation would likely endanger their health.

*Note: Emergent Air Ambulance Transport will be reviewed retrospectively.*

Transportation for personal or convenience reasons is deemed not to be Medically Necessary.

## Anesthesia

Medical Benefits for anesthesia are covered when required for certain procedures or surgeries. Anesthesia must be administered within a hospital or ambulatory surgical center.

### General Anesthesia for Dental Care

Coverage is provided for general anesthesia and associated facility charges in conjunction with dental care provided Members are:

- Six years of age or younger or,
- Are physically developmentally disabled, or
- Are an individual with a medical condition that their physician determines will place them at undue risk if the procedure is performed in a dental office. Their physician must approve the procedure.

## Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

This Medical Benefit will provide coverage for behavioral interventions based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). ABA therapy programs incorporate behavior modification, training and education.

This Medical Benefit will cover the five components of ABA:

- Initial assessment
- Direct clinical treatment
- Program development
- Treatment planning
- Supervision of the Providers of direct service

Coverage will be provided for Medically Necessary services to develop, maintain, and/or restore the functioning of an individual. Duplicate services, Provider training and group classes are not covered.

## Covered Providers

ABA services are provided by a state certified behavior health facility that has ABA services overseen by a BCBA- or BCBA-D (defined below) or provided directly by them as independent practitioners. Qualified network Providers can be located using the St. Luke's Health Plan Provider search at [stlukeshealthplan.org](http://stlukeshealthplan.org), by selecting "other facilities" and then "Applied Behavior Analysis Facility."

- **Board Certified Behavior Analyst® (BCBA® (graduate level), BCBA-D™ (doctoral level)** – The BCBA and BCBA-D are independent practitioners who also may work as employees or independent contractors for an organization. The BCBA conducts descriptive and systematic behavioral assessments, including functional analyses, and provides behavior analytic interpretations of the results. The BCBA designs and

supervises behavior analytic interventions. The BCBA is able to effectively develop and implement appropriate assessment and intervention methods for use in unfamiliar situations and for a range of cases. The BCBA seeks the consultation of more experienced practitioners when necessary. The BCBA teaches others to carry out ethical and effective behavior analytic interventions based on published research and designs and delivers instruction in behavior analysis. BCBA's supervise the work of Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts and others who implement behavior analytic interventions.

- **Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst® (BCaBA®)** – The BCaBA conducts descriptive behavioral assessments and is able to interpret the results and design ethical and effective behavior analytic interventions for clients. The BCaBA designs and oversees interventions in familiar cases (e.g., similar to those encountered during their training) that are consistent with the dimensions of Applied Behavior Analysis. The BCaBA obtains technical direction from a BCBA for unfamiliar situations. The BCaBA is able to teach others to carry out interventions and supervise behavioral technicians once the BCaBA has demonstrated competency with the procedures involved under the direct supervision of a BCBA. The BCaBA may assist a BCBA with the design and delivery of introductory level instruction in behavior analysis. It is mandatory that each BCaBA practice under the supervision of a BCBA. Governmental entities, third-party insurance plans and others utilizing BCaBA's must require this supervision.
- **Registered Behavior Technician™ (RBT™) or Therapy Assistant (TA)** – The RBT/TA is a paraprofessional who practices under the close, ongoing supervision of a BCBA or BCaBA (“Designated therapy supervisor”). The RBT/TA is primarily responsible for the direct implementation of skill-acquisition and behavior-reduction plans developed by the supervisor. The RBT/TA may also collect data and conduct certain types of assessments (.e.g, stimulus preference assessments). The RBT/TA does not design intervention or assessment plans. It is the responsibility of the therapy supervisor to determine which tasks an RBT/TA may perform as a function of his or her training, experience, and competence. The therapy supervisor is ultimately responsible for the work performed by the RBT/TA and bills for their services.

The following services are not covered:

- Providers accompanying children or family members to health care appointments that are not part of the direct provision of ABA services
- Services by more than one program manager for each child/family (program development, treatment planning, supervision)
- Training of therapy assistants and family members (as distinct from supervision)
- Parent training or classes, except for one-on-one or one-on-two direct training of the parents of one identified patient
- Services provided in a home school, or public/private school environment that are part of a child's schooling as distinct from specific ABA treatment services (e.g. acting as the “Teacher's Aide,” or helping a child with homework)

## Bariatric Surgery

Coverage for Bariatric Surgery is a Medical Benefit when Member has a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 40 or higher, or more than 100 pounds overweight, or if they have a BMI greater than 35 and at least one or more obesity-related co-morbidities such as type II diabetes, hypertension, sleep apnea and other respiratory disorders, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, osteoarthritis, lipid abnormalities, gastrointestinal disorders, or heart disease and they agree to meet the

requirements of a St. Luke's Health Plan approved program that is designed to help assure a successful outcome in their weight loss and better health goals.

The Plan covers the following procedures when determined to be Medically Necessary for Members and Dependents age 18 or older:

- Gastric sleeve procedure (Laparoscopic vertical gastrectomy; Laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy)
- Gastric or intestinal bypasses (Roux-en-Y; Biliopancreatic bypass; Biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch)
- Lap band (Laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding)
- Charges for diagnostic services.
- Nutritional counseling by a registered dietician.

## Biofeedback

**Pre-Authorization is required for all Biofeedback services.** Biofeedback is a training program designed to develop one's ability to control the involuntary nervous system and is covered when Prior Authorization is obtained, and the service is determined to be Medically Necessary.

## Blood Transfusions/Donation

Autologous blood donations are those in which the blood being transfused was donated by the patient during surgery. Blood transfusions are the replacement of blood or one of its components, depending on the condition being treated. Coverage for either is provided when ordered by their physician.

## Chemical Dependency

**Pre-Authorization is required for all Inpatient Chemical Dependency treatment.** Chemical Dependency treatment for abuse of substances (e.g. alcohol or other drugs) must be Medically Necessary and provided at the least restrictive level. A clear treatment plan containing measurable progress toward a rehabilitative goal(s), including but not limited to movement to a less restrictive setting (if applicable), or other Medically Necessary goals must be established as determined by the Provider.

Care may be received at a hospital, a Chemical Dependency facility, and/or received through residential treatment programs, partial hospital programs and Intensive Outpatient Programs or through group or individual outpatient services.

The following are not covered:

- Alcoholics Anonymous or other similar Chemical Dependency programs or support groups
- Care necessary to obtain shelter, to deter antisocial behavior, to deter runaway or truant behavior
- Court-ordered or other assessments to determine the Medical Necessity of court-ordered treatments
- Court-ordered treatments or treatments related to deferral of prosecution, deferral of sentencing or suspended sentencing or treatments ordered as a condition of retaining driving rights, when no Medical Necessity exists

- Custodial care, including housing that is not integral to a Medically Necessary level of care, such as care necessary to obtain shelter, to deter antisocial behavior, to deter runaway or truant behavior or to achieve family respite
- Emergency patrol services
- Housing for individuals in a Partial Hospital Program or Intensive Outpatient Program
- Information or referral services
- Information schools
- Long-term or custodial care
- Nonsubstance related disorders
- Therapeutic group homes, residential community homes, therapeutic schools, adventure-based and/or wilderness programs or other similar programs
- Treatment without ongoing concurrent review to ensure that treatment is being provided in the least restrictive setting required

## **Chiropractic Spinal Manipulation**

Coverage includes chiropractic manipulation of the spine when performed within the scope of the Provider's license.

## **Clinician Administered Medications**

Most medications received in a Provider's office or facility are covered by their Medical Benefits. Pre-Authorization is required for certain medications, gene therapy, and immunotherapy. Some clinician administered medications will be covered by the Pharmacy Benefit.

## **Clinical Trials**

Pre-Authorization is required for all Clinical Trials. This Medical Benefit covers routine patient costs if they choose to participate in an approved clinical trial, as outlined below. Services such as those identified as Experimental and/or Investigational in the clinical trial are not covered. Refer to "Costs Not Covered" below for details.

An approved clinical trial must meet all the following requirements:

- The clinical trial is a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial that is conducted in connection with the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening disease or condition. A "life-threatening condition" is a disease or condition likely to result in death unless the disease or condition is interrupted. The principal purpose of the trial intervention must be the therapeutic intent to potentially improve health outcomes.
- The clinical trial intervention must be intended for a condition covered by the Plan.

The approved clinical trial must be classed as one of the following:

- A federally funded or federally approved trial.
- A clinical trial conducted under a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) investigational new drug application.
- A drug trial that is exempt from the requirement of an FDA investigational new drug application.

- The clinical trial must be conducted under a written research protocol approved by an appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB). This protocol must demonstrate that the trial is in compliance with Federal regulations relating to the protection of human subjects.
- The clinical trial must provide a thorough informed consent document to the Member, and this document must be signed by them.
- All applicable Plan limitations for coverage of Out-of-Network Care along with all applicable Plan requirements for precertification, registration, and referrals will apply to any costs associated with their participation in the trial. St. Luke's Health Plan may require them, if they are a qualified Member, to use an In-Network Provider participating in a clinical trial if the Provider will accept them as a participant. As a Member participating in an approved clinical trial conducted outside the state of the Member's residence, they will be covered if the Plan otherwise provides Out-of-Network coverage for routine patient costs.
- A "qualified Member" is a Member or beneficiary who is eligible, according to the trial protocol, to participate in the approved clinical trial for the treatment of disease and either:
  - The referring health care professional is a participating Provider and has concluded that the Member's or beneficiary's participation in the clinical trial would be appropriate; or
  - The Member or beneficiary provides medical and scientific information establishing that the individual's participation in the clinical trial would be appropriate.

Costs associated with clinical trial participation may be covered as follows:

Costs Covered:

- Routine Patient Costs defined as follows:
  - Items or services that are typically provided under the Plan if they are not enrolled in a clinical trial (e.g., Office Visit levels for PCP and Specialist, other Office Visit Related Service costs).
  - Items, services, or tests that are required to safely provide the investigational intervention to include clinically appropriate monitoring of the effects of the intervention.
  - Medically Necessary diagnosis and treatment for conditions that are medical complications resulting from their participation in the clinical trial.

Costs Not Covered:

- Investigational items, services, tests, or devices that are the object of the clinical trial.
- Interventions, services, tests, or devices provided by the trial sponsor without charge.
- Data collection or record keeping costs that would not be required absent the clinical trial; this exclusion extends to any activity (e.g., imaging, lab tests, biopsies) necessary only to satisfy the data collection needs of the trial.
- Services or interventions clearly not consistent with widely accepted and established standards of care for their particular diagnosis.
- Interventions associated with treatment for conditions not covered by the Plan

## **Dental Pediatric (*Important Disclosure*)**

This Policy does not include coverage for pediatric dental care, which is considered an essential health benefit under the Affordable Care Act. Pediatric dental care is available in the market and can be purchased as a stand-alone product. Please contact the insurance agent, a stand-alone

dental insurance provider or Your Health Idaho if the Member wishes to purchase a stand-alone pediatric dental care product.

## **Dental Trauma**

Not intended as dental coverage, this Medical Benefit coverage is provided for repair of sound natural teeth and/or implants of sound natural teeth, and repair of the jawbone or supporting tissues, due to accidental injury. All services related to the repair must be completed within 24 months of the date of the injury. Any services received after 24 months have elapsed, or after they become disenrolled from the Plan regardless of whether 24 months have elapsed or not, are not covered. Anesthesia related to the accidental injury is covered within 24 months of the date of injury.

Injury due to biting or chewing is not covered and is not considered an accidental injury. For the purposes of this coverage, a “sound natural tooth” is a tooth that is (i) free of active or chronic clinical decay, (ii) contains at least fifty percent (50%) bony structure, (iii) is functional in the arch, and (iv) has not been excessively weakened by multiple dental procedures.

Dental, oral surgery or orthodontic related services are not covered, such as (but not limited to) those listed below, unless accident related or otherwise specifically covered by the Plan:

- Care of the teeth or dental structures
- Tooth damage due to biting or chewing
- Dental X-rays
- Extractions of teeth, impacted or otherwise (except as covered under St. Luke’s Health Plan)
- Orthodontia
- Procedures in preparation for dental implants, except as covered under the Dental Trauma Medical Benefits
- Services to correct malposition of teeth

## **Diabetic Education and Diabetic Nutrition Education**

Diabetic education regarding nutrition and insulin management of diabetes is covered. The education may take place in classes through approved diabetic courses or as individual instruction.

## **Diagnostic Services**

The Plan covers laboratory and radiology services for diagnostic purposes when Medically Necessary and ordered by a qualified health care Provider. These services may include a Copayment amount based on the service, such as Cardiovascular (Cardiac Catheter, Echocardiograms, etc.), CT/MRI/PET, Pathology/Other Radiology in addition to their Coinsurance amount.

## **Dialysis**

Medical Benefits are provided for kidney dialysis treatment, including medications and supplies used during the treatment for a period not to exceed thirty (30) months.

## Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Supplies

DME is medical equipment that can withstand repeated use, is not disposable, is used for a medically therapeutic purpose, is generally not useful in the absence of sickness or injury and is appropriate for use in the home. DME may be rented or purchased (at St. Luke's Health Plan's discretion) and the total cost for rental must not exceed the purchase price. Repair or replacement is only covered when needed due to normal use, a change in the patient's physical condition or the growth of a child. Duplicate items are not covered. When more than one option exists, Medical Benefits will be limited to the least expensive model or item appropriate to treat the patient's covered condition.

Examples of DME, covered under the Medical Benefit, include, but are not limited to:

- Crutches
- Oxygen and equipment for administering oxygen
- Walkers
- Wheelchairs

This Medical Benefit also covers:

- **Breast pumps:** Medical Benefits include electric, hospital grade, or manual breast pumps., as well as replacements of tubing, power adapters, breast shields, caps for breast pump bottles, polycarbonate bottles, and locking ring.
- **Diabetic monitoring equipment,** such as the initial cost of an insulin pump, pump supplies, and other equipment as determined by the Plan. Diabetic supplies such as insulin, syringes, needles, lancets, blood glucose meters, blood glucose test strips, and continuous glucose monitoring supplies are covered under the Pharmacy Benefit.
- **Medical supplies** needed for the treatment or care of an appropriate medically necessary covered condition and ordered by a Provider, including but not limited to compression garments, mastectomy supplies and ostomy supplies. Supplies available over the counter are excluded.
- **Oral appliances** when related to the treatment of Sleep Apnea.
- **Orthopedic appliances/braces:** These include appliances used to support abnormal joints, limit pressure on a joint after injury to allow it to heal or correct abnormal curves in the spine.
- **Prosthetic devices:** Medical Benefits include external prosthetic appliances, which are used to replace all or part of a missing body part and are necessary for the alleviation or correction of illness, injury, or congenital defect.

Surgically implanted devices may be covered under the appropriate surgical Medical Benefit and are not considered DME. Medical Benefits for durable medical equipment are determined by the type of device and its intended use, and not by the entity that provides or bills for the device.

The following are not covered:

- Biofeedback equipment
- Equipment or supplies whose primary purpose is preventing illness or injury
- Exercise equipment



- Items not manufactured exclusively for the direct therapeutic treatment of an illness or injured patient
- Items used outside the home primarily for sports/recreational activities
- Oral appliances, except to treat obstructive sleep apnea
- Over-the-counter items (except Medically Necessary crutches, walkers, standard wheelchairs, diabetic supplies, medications, and ostomy supplies are covered)
- Personal comfort items including but not limited to air conditioners, lumbar rolls, heating pads, diapers or personal hygiene items
- Phototherapy devices related to seasonal affective disorder
- Supportive equipment/environmental adaptive items including, but not limited to, handrails, chair lifts, ramps, shower chairs, commodes, car lifts, elevators, and modifications made to the patient's home, place of work, or vehicle.
- The following medical equipment/supplies: standard car seats or strollers, push chairs, air filtration/purifier systems or supplies, water purifiers, allergenic mattresses, orthopedic or other special chairs, pillows, bed-wetting training equipment, corrective shoes, whirlpool baths, vaporizers, room humidifiers, hot tubs or other types of tubs, home UV or other light units (light boxes or specialized lamps or bulbs), home blood testing equipment and supplies (except diabetic equipment and supplies, and home anticoagulation meters)

## Emergency Services and Urgent Care

The Plan covers Emergency Department visits (including pre-stabilization, post-stabilization, certain Ancillary Services) and Urgent Care visits to evaluate an Emergency Medical Condition at In-Network and Out-of-Network facilities.

Emergency (or emergent) means the sudden and acute onset of a symptom(s), including severe pain, that would lead a person, acting reasonably, to believe a health condition exists that requires immediate medical attention and that failure to provide medical attention would result in serious impairment to bodily functions or serious dysfunction of a bodily organ or part, or would place the person's health in serious jeopardy.

Examples of **emergent** conditions include severe pain, difficulty breathing, deep cuts or severe bleeding, poisoning, drug overdose, broken bones, unconsciousness, stab or gunshot wounds, automobile accidents, and pain or bleeding during pregnancy. Examples of **urgent** conditions include cuts and lacerations, diarrhea, allergic reactions, sprains, urinary tract infections and vomiting.

In the case of an emergency, home or away, seek the most immediate care available. If the Member require Out-of-Network services after their condition is stabilized, the Member must obtain permission from the from St. Luke's Health Plan in order to receive their highest level of benefits. For additional information, see the *No Surprises Act* section.

## Essential Health Benefits

Essential Health Benefits means those categories of benefits identified in section 1302(b) of the Affordable Care Act (see *Plan Definitions* section.). In addition, the following services are also considered Essential Health Benefits by the Plan and are covered under this Plan:

- Breastfeeding support



- Postnatal care
- Respiratory therapy
- Enterostomal therapy
- Growth Hormone therapy
- Home IV therapy
- Well Baby visits and care

## Family Planning

Voluntary sterilization procedures and Food and Drug Administration-approved birth control methods are covered. Over-the-counter birth control products are not covered, except medications for which coverage is required under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Select oral, patch, and ring contraceptives are covered under the Pharmacy Benefit.

The following are not covered:

- Sterilization reversal
- Services or supplies for the treatment of sexual dysfunction such as, but not limited to, treatment of erectile dysfunction (including penile implants), anorgasmia, and premature ejaculation. However, medications for erectile dysfunction may be covered under the Pharmacy Benefit; please refer to the Prescription Drug List to determine coverage.

## Foot Orthotics

Custom-designed foot orthotics, when prescribed by a physician and required for all normal, daily activities, are covered by the Plan.

## Genetic Services

Genetic testing, counseling, interventions, therapy and other genetic services are covered when determined to be an essential component of Medically Necessary care or treatment of a covered condition, or a Medically Necessary precursor to obtaining prompt treatment of a covered condition. If recommended by a Provider, genetic testing for breast cancer (BRCA) is covered.

## Growth Hormone

Growth hormone treatment is covered under the Pharmacy Benefit when Medically Necessary. Treatments included within the Plan's Drug Formulary can be found within the Prescription Drug List (PDL).

## Habilitative Services

Medical Benefits are provided for habilitative services when Medically Necessary and related to a Developmental Disability. These services must be recognized by the medical community as efficacious:

- For partial or full development;
- For keeping and learning age-appropriate skills and functioning within the individual's environment; and
- To compensate for a progressive physical, cognitive, and emotional illness.

Covered services include speech, occupational, physical and Aural Therapy services.

Day habilitation services designed to provide training, structured activities and specialized assistance to adults, chore services to assist with basic needs, vocational and custodial services are not covered.

## Hearing Exams, Aids/Appliances

Hearing aids, auditory osseointegration (bone conduction) devices, cochlear implants, and examinations for or fitting of them are covered for dependent children up to age 26 when Medically Necessary. Costs for these device(s), repairs and any other related services such as surgical implantation are all subject to the limit(s) noted within the *Benefits Outline of Coverage* for Hearing Aids/Appliances.

## Home Health Care

Home health care is covered when prescribed by their physician. Medical Benefits are limited to intermittent visits by a licensed home health care agency.

For this Medical Benefit, a visit is a time-limited session or encounter with any of the following home health agency Providers:

- Nursing services (RN, LPN)
- Licensed or registered physical, occupational or speech therapist (or an assistant working under the supervision of one of these Providers)
- Home health aide working directly under the supervision of one of the above Providers
- Licensed as a social worker - masters prepared
- Registered dietician

Private duty nursing, shift or hourly care services, custodial care, maintenance care, housekeeping services, respite care and meal services are not covered.

This Medical Benefit is not intended to cover care in the home when St. Luke's Health Plan determines care in a skilled nursing facility, or a hospital is more cost-effective. Any charges for home health care that qualify under this Medical Benefit and under any other Medical Benefit of this Plan will be covered under the most appropriate Medical Benefit, as determined by St. Luke's Health Plan.

## Hospice Care

Hospice care is covered when prescribed by their physician and s/he has determined that life expectancy is 6 months or less and a palliative, supportive care treatment approach has been chosen. *Note: Patients are not required to discontinue treatment or "curative care" in order to access the hospice Medical Benefit.* This Medical Benefit includes acute, respite, and home care to meet the physical, psychosocial, and special needs of a patient-family unit during the final stages of illness and dying. Hospice care is provided at a variety of levels to meet the individual needs of the patient-family unit. Levels offered are:

- **Intermittent in-home visits** are provided on an as needed basis by the hospice team, which includes health care professionals, support staff, and a twenty-four (24) hour a day "on-call" registered nurse. This Level of Care does not cover room and board while Member resides in a skilled nursing facility, adult family home, or assisted living facility.
- **Inpatient hospice** care is needed when care cannot be managed where the patient resides. The care will be provided at an inpatient facility until the patient's condition stabilizes.

- **Respite Care**

- **Continuous home care** is provided when a medical crisis occurs where the patient resides, and care can be provided at the residence. During such periods, the hospice team can provide around-the-clock care.
- **Inpatient respite care** is available to provide the patient's caregiver a rest. This acknowledges that caring for a dying person can be difficult. Care for the patient is provided at an inpatient facility and includes room and board costs.

When provided within the above defined levels of care, additional covered expenses include:

- Approved medications and infusion therapies furnished and billed by an approved hospice agency
- Durable Medical Equipment
- Supplies required for palliative care

If the patient exhausts the hospice Medical Benefit maximum, limited extensions may be granted if it is determined that the treatment is Medically Necessary. Any charges for hospice care that qualify under this Medical Benefit, and under any other Medical Benefit of this Plan, will be covered under the most appropriate Medical Benefit as determined by St. Luke's Health Plan.

The following are not covered:

- Custodial care or maintenance care, except palliative care to the terminally ill patient subject to the stated limits
- Financial or legal counseling services
- Housekeeping or meal services
- Services by the Member or their family or volunteers
- Services not specifically listed as covered hospice services under St. Luke's Health Plan
- Supportive equipment such as handrails or ramps
- Transportation

## **Hospital Inpatient Services**

Hospital inpatient services could include an admit to acute inpatient, chemical dependency, long term acute care, mental health, rehabilitation, and skilled nursing facilities for Medically Necessary care. Covered inpatient care includes room and board, operating room and anesthesia, radiology, lab and pharmacy services furnished by and used while in the hospital. See the *Concurrent Review* section for additional details.

## **Hospital Outpatient Services**

Covered outpatient care includes outpatient surgery, procedures and services, operating room and anesthesia, radiology, lab and pharmacy services furnished by and used while at a hospital or ambulatory surgical center.

## **Infertility Diagnostic Services**

Coverage is provided for the initial evaluation and diagnosis of infertility only. Examples of covered services for the initial diagnosis of infertility include: endometrial biopsy, hysterosalpingography, reproductive screening services, or sperm count. Treatments and procedures for the purposes of

producing a pregnancy are not covered, including artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization (IVF), and gamete intra-fallopian transplant (GIFT).

## Infusion Therapy

**Pre-Authorization is required for certain infused medications, gene therapy, and immunotherapy.** This Medical Benefit covers the administration of medications, including but not limited to, intravenous, subcutaneous, and epidural routes (into the bloodstream, under the skin, and into the membranes surrounding the spinal cord). Drug therapies commonly administered via infusion include, but are not limited to, antibiotics, chemotherapy, pain management, parenteral nutrition, and immune globulin. In some cases, the medication administered via infusion may be covered by the Pharmacy Benefit. Diagnoses commonly requiring infusion therapy include infections that are unresponsive to oral antibiotics; cancer and cancer-related pain; gastrointestinal diseases or disorders which prevent normal functioning of the GI system; congestive heart failure; immune disorders; and more. Nursing visits associated with infusion therapy are covered under the Home Health Care Medical Benefit, regardless of whether the patient is home bound.

## Lifestyle Medicine

Through this Plan the Member will have access to St Luke's Intensive Lifestyle Medicine program which aims to prevent, treat, and manage various chronic diseases. The program includes three shared medical appointments with a medical provider as well as regular health coaching support across the duration of the program. Virtual classes are offered to support behavior change regarding physical activity, nutrition, restorative sleep, stress management, positive social connections, and avoidance of risky substances. Opportunities exist for in-person exercise as well as individual appointments with Registered Dietitian or Licensed Clinical Social Worker, if warranted. The shared medical appointments with the Provider require payment of the specialist copay amount. Learn more by visiting [stlukesonline.org/lifestylemed](http://stlukesonline.org/lifestylemed) or sign up for a free information session by calling (208) 706-9710.

## Maternity and Newborn Care

Services related to pregnancy, including surrogacy, and childbirth and Complications of Pregnancy are covered when the Member is appropriately enrolled and recognized by the Plan as a Member and when the services are Medically Necessary. Diagnostic procedures during pregnancy for prenatal diagnosis of congenital disorders of the fetus are covered. Services rendered by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse practitioner (ARNP), certified nurse midwife, or licensed midwife are covered under the Medical Benefit.

Coverage of newborns is provided when the child is appropriately enrolled as a Dependent on the Plan (see *Eligibility* and *Enrollment* sections for more details). Medical Benefits are subject to the newborn child's own Coinsurance and Deductible requirements.

Newborn care includes inpatient hospital services and professional care (including circumcision) performed during the initial period of hospitalization immediately following birth. Any services performed after the baby is discharged from the inpatient Level of Care are covered under the Medical Benefit applicable to the services billed and are not considered newborn care.

Circumcisions are covered up to 28 days following birth. Circumcisions performed after 28 days are covered when Medically Necessary as determined by St. Luke's Health Plan.

***Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act of 1996*** This Act states that health plans may not restrict Medical Benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a normal vaginal delivery or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending Provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or newborn earlier than these periods. In any case, St. Luke's Health Plan may not, under federal law, require that a Provider obtain authorization from the Plan or the insurance issuer or Third-Party Administrator for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of these periods.

## **Mental Health Care**

Medically Necessary mental health care at a hospital or treatment facility, Residential Treatment Center, Partial Hospitalization Program, Intensive Outpatient Program, and group or individual outpatient service is covered. Mental health care services must be Medically Necessary and provided at the least restrictive level of care. Facilities offering inpatient level of care must follow a medical model with physician and/or nursing staff on site 24 hours each day. A clear treatment plan must be established on admission and include measurable progress toward a rehabilitative goal(s), including but not limited to movement to a less restrictive setting (if applicable), or other Medically Necessary goals as determined by their Provider and the Plan's medical management.

**Pre-Authorization is required for inpatient admissions for mental health services.** All inpatient admissions, including those for the treatment of mental health conditions, are reviewed by the Plan concurrently. See the *Concurrent Review and Discharge Planning and Coordination* section for more details.

Family counseling, psychological testing and psychotherapeutic programs are covered only if related to the treatment of an approved clinical mental health diagnosis, specifically, those noted in the most current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).

*Pursuant to the Mental Health Parity Act of 1996 (MHPA) and the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA), the St. Luke's Health Plan applies its terms uniformly and enforces parity between covered health care Medical Benefits and covered mental health and substance disorder Medical Benefits relating to financial cost sharing restrictions and treatment duration limitations. For further details, please contact St. Luke's Health Plan.*

Treatments for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) includes evidence-based care and related equipment prescribed or ordered for an individual diagnosed with an ASD by a licensed physician or a licensed psychologist who determines the care to be Medically Necessary, including but not limited to behavioral health treatment, pharmacy care, psychiatric care, psychological care, and therapeutic care.

Autism spectrum disorder treatments will be paid consistent with other mental health services (including applicable deductibles, copayments, or coinsurance), and not subject to any separate dollar limits or visit limits, and in parity with medical and surgical Medical Benefits. See the *Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)* section for information specific to ABA.

The following are not covered:

- Adventure-based and/or wilderness programs that focus primarily on education, socialization or delinquency

- Court-ordered assessments
- Custodial care, including housing that is not integral to a Medically Necessary level of care, such as care necessary to obtain shelter, to deter antisocial behavior, to deter runaway or truant behavior or to achieve family respite
- Marriage and couples counseling
- Family therapy, in the absence of an approved mental health diagnosis
- Housing for individuals in a Partial Hospital Program or Intensive Outpatient Program
- Nontraditional, alternative therapies that are not based on American Psychiatric and American Psychological Association acceptable techniques and theories
- Sensitivity training
- Sexual dysfunctions and paraphilic disorders
- Therapeutic group homes, residential community homes, therapeutic schools, adventure-based and/or wilderness programs or other similar programs

## Nutritional and Dietary Formulas

Nutritional and dietary formulas are covered when Medically Necessary.

Special lifestyle diets, nutritional supplements, vitamins, and minerals are not covered, except as otherwise noted.

## Nutritional Counseling

Nutritional counseling is covered for Members with medical conditions that require a special diet when rendered by a registered dietician or other licensed professional. Some examples of such medical conditions include: coronary heart disease, congestive heart failure, severe obstructive airway disease, gout, renal failure, phenylketonuria and hyperlipidemias. Nutritional counseling for diabetes is covered under the *Diabetic Education & Diabetic Nutrition Education* Medical Benefit.

## Oral Surgery

Oral surgery is covered under the Medical Benefit when a medical diagnosis is present. Oral Surgery required for a dental diagnosis such as periodontal disease is not covered. Examples of covered services include:

- The reduction or manipulation of fractures of facial bones
- Excision of lesions, cysts, and tumors of the mandible, mouth, lip or tongue
- Incision of accessory sinuses, mouth salivary glands or ducts
- Extraction of teeth damaged due to radiation therapy that occurred while under the St. Luke's Health Plan

## Pharmacy Benefits

**Pre-Authorization is required for certain prescription drugs, please see *Pre-Authorization of Prescription Medications* section below for more information.** This section includes important information about how to use your Pharmacy Benefits. In addition to this Agreement, you can find information about your Pharmacy Benefits by doing any of the following:



- Logging in to your St. Luke's Health Plan account at [stlukeshealthplan.org](https://stlukeshealthplan.org) and use Pharmacy Tools; or
- Calling Member Services at (833) 975-1281.

To get the most from your Pharmacy Benefits, use an In-Network Pharmacy and present your ID card when filling a prescription. St. Luke's Health Plan has a national network including chain pharmacies and independent pharmacies. Members can find an In-Network Pharmacy at [stlukeshealthplan.org](https://stlukeshealthplan.org).

If the Member uses an In-Network Pharmacy, without using your Pharmacy Benefit coverage at the time of pick-up, the Member must submit to a *Prescription Reimbursement Form* to the Plan with your itemized pharmacy receipt. If needed, contact Member Services to request this form. If the drug is covered, the Member will be reimbursed the Allowed Amount minus your Copay/Coinsurance and/or Deductible.

There are Tiers (or levels) of covered prescriptions on the prescription drug list. This Pharmacy Benefit allows the Member to choose the medications that best meet your medical needs while encouraging the Member and your Provider to discuss treatment options and choose lower-Tier medications when therapeutically appropriate.

Medications on each Tier are selected by an expert panel of physicians and pharmacists and may change periodically. To determine which Tier a drug is assigned to, call Member Services or log in to your St. Luke's Health Plan account.

## Prescription Drug List (PDL)

A Drug Formulary is a list of medications covered by your health plan. There is also a Prescription Drug List (PDL) that may be provided to the Member by the Plan that is a list containing the most commonly prescribed medications in your most common strengths and formulations. It is not a complete list of all medications covered by your formulary. Medications not included on the PDL may be covered at reduced benefits, or not covered at all. For a printed copy of your PDL or information regarding medications not included on the PDL, contact Pharmacy Member Services at (833) 975-1281. To view an electronic copy of the PDL or to search a complete list of medications covered by your formulary, visit [stlukeshealthplan.org](https://stlukeshealthplan.org)

Recognizing that preventive services can lead to improved health by identifying and treating illnesses early, St. Luke's Health Plan does not require High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) participants meet their Annual Deductible prior to covering drugs in some drug categories. You will not have to meet your Annual Deductible before the Plan contributes to the cost of your prescription for medications listed in the categories below. Refer to the Prescription Drug List for a list of medications in the following categories:

- Asthma and COPD
- Blood Thinners
- Brand Contraceptives
- Cardiovascular
- Cholesterol
- Diabetes (Insulin, Non-Insulin, and Test Strips)
- Osteoporosis

## **Filling Prescriptions**

### **Copay/Coinsurance**

The Member generally will be charged one Copay/Coinsurance per covered prescription up to a 30-day supply at an In-Network retail pharmacy. If your Provider prescribes a dose of a medication that is not available, the Member will be charged a Copay for each separate prescription needed of lesser strength of the drug to meet the strength prescribed.

### **Quantity and Supply**

Prescriptions are subject to the Plan's quantity and day-supply limitations based upon FDA guidance or evidence-based literature. The most current information can be found by logging in to your St. Luke's Health Plan account.

### **Refills**

Except for Schedule II controlled substances, refills are allowed after 80 percent of the last refill that has been used for a 30-day supply, 80 percent for a 31 to 100-day supply, and 50 percent for a 10-day supply.

A one-time early refill per year per member will be granted for the purposes of vacation and an additional one-time early refill per year per Member will be granted due to a lost medication. This does not apply to controlled substances.

### **Manual Reimbursement**

If the Member purchases their medication without using their ID card, they may submit a claim for consideration for reimbursement using a Prescription Reimbursement Form. Please note if the prescription was filled at a pharmacy that is Out-of-Network, the Member will not be reimbursed. Reimbursement will be according to the pharmacy network price. Manual refund requests must be received within 60 days of when the pharmacy dispensed the prescription.

Claims for reimbursement of prescription drugs are submitted to:

St. Luke's Health Plan, Inc.  
Attn: Pharmacy Benefit Manager  
800 East Park Blvd  
Boise, ID 83712

## **Generic Drug Substitution Requirement**

If the Member purchases a brand-name drug when a generic substitution is required, they must pay the difference between the Allowed Amount for the Generic Drug and the Allowed Amount for the brand-name drug, plus your Copay/Coinsurance or Deductible. Some prescription medications are excluded from this requirement.

## **Maintenance Medications and Mail Order**

The Plan offers a maintenance Pharmacy Benefit, allowing the Member to obtain up to a 100-day supply of certain medications through a designated pharmacy. Controlled substance prescription medications and Tier 5 specialty medications are not eligible for this benefit. This Pharmacy Benefit is available for maintenance prescription medications if the Member:



- Has been using the drug for at least one month;
- Expects to continue using the drug for the next year; and
- Has filled the prescription at least once within the past six months.

Please note that a 30-day supply can be filled at an In-Network pharmacy. Any medication fills with a day supply 31 days to 100 days are required to be filled through a designated pharmacy.

## Pre-Authorization of Prescription Medications

There are certain medications that require Pre-Authorization. These medications are identified on the *Prescription Drug List*. The letters “PA” appear next to each medication that requires Pre-Authorization. Pre-Authorization is also required if the medication is prescribed in excess of Plan limits (quantity, duration of use, maximum dose, etc.). The most current information can be found at the St. Luke’s Health Plan website. To obtain Pre-Authorization for these medications, please have your Provider call St. Luke’s Health Plan Pharmacy Services at (833) 975-1281.

If your Provider prescribes a medication that requires Pre-Authorization, the Member should verify that Pre-Authorization has been obtained *before* purchasing the medication. The Member can choose to buy these medications if they are not Pre-Authorized, but they will not be covered, and they will have to pay the full price for the medication.

## Step Therapy

Certain medications require the Member to have already tried an alternative medication preferred by the Plan. This process is called “step therapy”. The alternative medication is generally a more cost-effective therapy that does not compromise clinical quality. If your Provider feels that the alternative medication does not meet your needs, the Plan may cover the medication without step therapy if St. Luke’s Health Plan determines it is Medically Necessary. Medication samples may not be applicable to satisfying the step therapy requirement.

Prescription medications that require step therapy are identified on the *Prescription Drug List*. The letters “ST” appear next to each medication that requires step therapy.

## Inappropriate Prescription Practices

In the interest of safety, St. Luke’s Health Plan reserves the right to not cover certain prescription medications. These medications include:

- Narcotic analgesics;
- Other addictive or potentially addictive medications; and
- Medications prescribed in quantities, dosages, or usages that are outside the usual standard of care for the medication in question.

These medications are not covered when they are prescribed:

- Outside the usual standard of care for the practitioner prescribing the drug;
- In a manner inconsistent with accepted medical practice; or
- For indications that are Experimental and/or Investigational.

This exclusion is subject to review by the St. Luke’s Health Plan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee which includes review by a practicing clinician who is familiar with the drug and its appropriate use.

## Pharmacy Benefit Abuse

St. Luke's Health Plan may limit the availability and filling of any Prescription Drug that is susceptible to abuse. St. Luke's Health Plan may require you to:

- Obtain prescriptions in limited dosages and supplies;
- Obtain prescriptions only from a specified Provider;
- Fill your prescriptions at a specified pharmacy;
- Participate in specified treatment for any underlying medical problem (such as a pain management program);
- Complete a drug treatment program; or
- Adhere to any other specified limitation or program designed to reduce or eliminate drug abuse or dependence.

If the Member seeks to obtain medications in amounts in excess of what is Medically Necessary, such as making repeated Emergency Department/Urgent Care visits to obtain medications, St. Luke's Health Plan may deny coverage of any medication susceptible to abuse.

St. Luke's Health Plan may terminate the Member from coverage if they make an intentional misrepresentation of material fact in connection with obtaining or attempting to obtain medications, such as by intentionally misrepresenting your condition, other medications, healthcare encounters, or other medically relevant information.

## Specialty Medications

Specialty medications should be filled at a designated pharmacy. Exceptions will be allowed for limited distribution medications required to be filled through a specific pharmacy. To see if your medication qualifies as a specialty medication, review the Prescription Drug List. Specialty medications are identified as Tier 5 on your plan formulary. For questions regarding specialty medications, contact Pharmacy Benefit Member Services (PBM) at (833) 975-1281 or the St. Luke's Specialty Pharmacy at (208) 205-7779.

## Smart Co-pay Program

The Smart Co-pay program takes advantage of assistance received from manufacturers on some high-cost medications. This program ensures both the member and the Plan pay the lowest cost on many of the most expensive medications.

Under the Smart Co-pay program, the manufacturer will pay all or a portion of a member's Copayment or Coinsurance through the manufacturer's assistance program. When manufacturer assistance is available on select prescription medications, a Member's Copayment or Coinsurance amount may reflect up to the maximum value of any manufacturer assistance. The amount paid by the manufacturer does not apply towards the Member's outstanding Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum. St. Luke's Health Plan will help coordinate these assistance programs for the member.

If Copayment or Coinsurance assistance is provided directly to a Member in the form of reimbursements from the manufacturer, the Member must report the amount received to the Plan to ensure the correct amounts are applied towards the Member's Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

## Exceptions Process

If the Provider believes that a Member requires a certain drug that is not on your formulary, they should not be subject to step therapy, or exceeds a quantity limit, they may request an exception through the Pharmacy Pre-Authorization process at (833) 975-1281.

## Prescriptions Dispensed in a Provider's Office

Prescriptions dispensed in a Provider's office are not covered by the Pharmacy Benefit unless expressly approved by St. Luke's Health Plan.

## Disclaimers

St. Luke's Health Plan refers to many of the medications in the Agreement by their respective trademarks. St. Luke's Health Plan does not own these trademarks. The manufacturer or supplier of each drug owns the drug's trademark. By listing these medications, St. Luke's Health Plan does not endorse or sponsor any drug, manufacturer, or supplier. Conversely, these manufacturers and suppliers do not endorse or sponsor any St. Luke's Health Plan service or Plan, nor are they affiliated with St. Luke's Health Plan.

## Pharmacy Coordination of Benefits

If the Member has other health insurance that is their primary coverage, Claims must be submitted first to their primary insurance carrier before being submitted to the Plan. In some circumstances, their secondary policy may pay a portion of their Out-of-Pocket expense. When they mail a secondary Claim to the Plan, they must include a Prescription Reimbursement Form and the pharmacy receipt for the Plan to process their Claim. In some circumstances, an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) from their primary carrier may also be required. Please see the *Manual Reimbursement* section above for details on how to submit the Prescription Reimbursement Form.

## Pivio

Pivio - the complete health improvement program educates people on lifestyle drivers to reduce their risk of chronic diseases. Coupled with education and a support system, Pivio provides participants with tools to help identify barriers and influence sustainable behavioral change. A powerful lifestyle medicine program that spans over 12-weeks and consists of 18 group sessions. Group sessions are facilitated by Pivio trained facilitators. The skills and behavior change techniques learned during the 12-week program empower participants to continue their journey toward optimal health and maintain healthy lifestyles. For questions about Pivio information sessions or courses call (208) 706-9710 or visit [stlukesonline.org/health-services/specialties/programs/the-pivio-program](https://stlukesonline.org/health-services/specialties/programs/the-pivio-program)

## Podiatric Care

Coverage is provided for certain surgical podiatric services, including incision and drainage of infected tissue of the foot, removal of lesions of the foot, removal or debridement of infected toenails, and treatment of fractures and dislocations of bones of the foot. Routine foot care, such as the treatment of corns, calluses, non-surgical care of toenails, fallen arches and other symptomatic complaints of the feet are not covered, except if a Member has peripheral vascular disease or diabetes.

## Preventive Care

Coverage is provided by or under the supervision of your Provider, and includes all services required by the Affordable Care Act, including:

- Periodic Exams – for Adults and Children, including the specific diagnostic testing/screening and laboratory services as recommended by the US Preventive Services Task Force and the Health Resources and Services Administration.
- Immunizations – including adult, adolescent and child. Immunizations include those as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC); those provided in a pharmacy are covered under the Pharmacy Benefit. (Travel immunizations are not covered.)
- Mammograms – the first mammogram per Calendar Year is covered under the Preventive Care Medical Benefit, regardless of age or diagnosis. Subsequent mammograms in the same Calendar Year are covered under the Medical Benefits, regardless of diagnosis. This includes coverage for 3-D Mammography.
- Colonoscopies – the first colonoscopy per Calendar Year is covered under the Preventive Care Medical Benefit, regardless of diagnosis. Subsequent colonoscopies in the same Calendar Year are covered under the Medical Benefits, regardless of diagnosis.
- Preventive medications through your pharmacy.
- Sigmoidoscopy – the first Sigmoidoscopy per Calendar Year is covered under the Preventive Care Medical Benefit, regardless of diagnosis. Subsequent sigmoidoscopies in the same Calendar Year are covered under the Medical Benefits, regardless of diagnosis.
- Fecal Occult Blood Tests – the first fecal occult blood test per Calendar Year is covered under the Preventive Care Medical Benefit, regardless of diagnosis. Subsequent fecal occult blood tests in the same Calendar Year are covered under the Medical Benefits, regardless of diagnosis.
- Pap Test
- Prostate Cancer Screening (PSA)
- FIT-Fecal DNA – 1 per calendar year
- Additional Screenings and Counseling – including Obesity Screening and Counseling, Nutritional Counseling, Bone Density Screening.

Preventive care does not include diagnostic treatment, lab, x-ray, follow-up care, or maintenance care of existing conditions or chronic disease.

For more information on the recommendations of the CDC, US Preventive Services Task Force, and the Health Resources and Services Administration, visit the following website:

[www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)

Physical examinations, reports or related services for the purpose of obtaining or maintaining employment, insurance, or licenses or permits of any kind, school admission, school sports clearances, immigration, foreign travel, medical research, camps, or government licensure, or other reasons not related to medical needs are not covered.

## Professional/Physician Services

This Medical Benefit applies to in-person, face-to-face office visits, and Telehealth. St. Luke's On-Demand Virtual Care visits are covered as a separate benefit as described in the St. Luke's On-Demand Virtual Care section below.

Scheduling and medical record documentation of these visits, as well as creation of a Claim, follows the same standard as in-person office visits. Members should review this with their Provider before receiving services to ensure their telephonic or e-visit meets the requirements above.

The following are not covered:

- Professional services provided by fax or email
- Follow up phone calls from Provider for test results, referrals, prescription refills or reminders that occur within 7 days of an in-person office visit
- Calls to nurse line or to obtain educational material. This service is offered via St. Luke's Health System to members of the Health Plan free of charge.

## Reconstructive, Corrective and Cosmetic Services

**Pre-Authorization is required for reconstructive/plastic procedures performed on an inpatient basis.** Plastic and reconstructive services are covered when performed to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body caused by congenital defects, trauma, infection, tumors, disease, accidental injury or prior surgery (if the prior surgery was or would be covered under the Plan). Specific criteria for coverage are as follows:

- Services performed to correct congenital defects of a child must be completed before the child's 18th birthday.
- In the case of accidental injury, services must be completed within 12 months of the initial injury.

***Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998*** The federal law titled "Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998" states health plans that are providing medical and surgical Medical Benefits for mastectomy resulting from disease, illness or injury must also cover, for those affected Members:

- Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed
- Reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance
- Internal or external prostheses
- Treatment of physical complications in all stages of post-mastectomy reconstruction, including lymphedema

The following are not covered:

- Abdominoplasty/panniculectomy
- Complications resulting from non-covered services
- Cosmetic services, supplies or surgery to repair, modify or reshape a functioning body structure for improvement of the patient's appearance or self-esteem (except for gender affirming surgery);
- Dermabrasion, chemical peels or skin procedures to improve appearance or to remove scars or tattoos

## Rehabilitation Therapy

Coverage for disabling conditions is provided through inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation therapy. Examples of such therapies include, but are not limited to, physical therapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy. The following conditions must be met:

- The services are rendered to restore and significantly improve function that was previously present but lost due to acute injury or illness,
- Services are not for palliative, recreational, relaxation or maintenance therapy purposes, and
- Loss of function was not the result of a work-related injury.

Coverage for cardiac rehabilitation requires that the Member has experienced a cardiac event in the preceding twelve (12) month period, such as myocardial infarction, chronic stable angina, heart transplants or heart and lung transplants. Covered rehabilitation therapies include pulmonary rehabilitation and therapy for peripheral arterial disease.

The following are not covered: Vocational rehabilitation, work hardening or training programs regardless of diagnosis or symptoms that may be present. Non-Medically Necessary education is not covered.

## Inpatient Rehabilitation

**Pre-Authorization is required for Inpatient Rehabilitation.** Inpatient Rehabilitation must be furnished and billed by a rehabilitative unit of a hospital or by another approved rehabilitation facility. When rehabilitation follows acute care in a continuous inpatient stay, coverage starts on the day the care becomes primarily rehabilitative. Inpatient care includes room and board, services provided and billed by the inpatient facility, and therapies performed during the rehabilitative stay.

## Outpatient Rehabilitation

Outpatient rehabilitation Medical Benefits are subject to the following provisions:

- Members must not be confined in a hospital or other medical facility, and
- Services must be billed by a hospital, physician, physical, occupational or speech therapist.

Speech therapy is covered for a medically necessary condition when ordered by a Provider. Once the Medical Benefits under this provision are exhausted, coverage may not be extended by using the Medical Benefits under any other provision, except when an exception is expressly granted by the Plan.

## Second Opinions/Physical Examinations

After enrollment, St. Luke's Health Plan will have the right to request that the Member be examined by a mutually agreed upon Provider concerning a claim, a second opinion request, or

a request for Pre-authorization. St. Luke's Health Plan will be responsible for paying for any such physical examination.

## Skilled Nursing Facility

**Pre-Authorization is required for skilled nursing facility care.** Medical Benefits include room and board and ancillary services. The care must be therapeutic or restorative and require in-facility delivery by licensed professional medical personnel, under the direction of a physician, to obtain the desired medical outcome. Maintenance care and custodial care are not covered.

## St. Luke's On-Demand Virtual Care

St. Luke's On-Demand Virtual Care is a service available daily, if appropriate depending on their symptoms. St. Luke's On-Demand visits are performed through online video. A video visit is scheduled and completed through their MyChart account. If the Member needs a MyChart account, they can visit [mychart.slhs.org/mychart/signup](https://mychart.slhs.org/mychart/signup) or call 208-381-9000, and someone will help them. Please allow time to set up their account before scheduling a visit.

For additional information about St. Luke's On-Demand Virtual Care, including common symptoms and conditions treated, please visit [stlukesonline.org/mychart/on-demand-virtual-care](https://stlukesonline.org/mychart/on-demand-virtual-care).

## Termination of Pregnancy

Voluntary termination of pregnancy is not covered unless the life of the mother is endangered by the continued pregnancy, or the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest as defined in Idaho Code or an applicable court.

## Tobacco Cessation Counseling

Services to treat this addiction, including classes, patches and other prescriptions are covered.

## Transgender/Gender Affirming Services

**Pre-Authorization is required for gender affirming services.**

These services are intended to provide treatment for patients with gender dysphoria. This assistance may include primary care, gynecologic and urologic care, reproductive options, mental health services (e.g., assessment, counseling, psychotherapy), and hormonal and gender affirming surgical treatments. Gender affirming surgical treatments are limited to Members aged 18 and older.

The services listed below are considered cosmetic and are not covered:

- Abdominoplasty
- Blepharoplasty
- Breast augmentation
- Calf Implants
- Cheek/malar implants
- Chin augmentation (reshaping or enhancing the size of the chin)
- Collagen injections
- Cricothyroid approximations (voice modification surgery)
- Electrolysis (hair removal)



- Face-lift
- Facial bone reduction
- Forehead lift
- Hair transplantation
- Laryngoplasty (reshaping of laryngeal framework/voice modification surgery)
- Lip reductions/enhancement (decreasing/increase lip size)
- Liposuction
- Mastopexy (breast lift)
- Neck tightening
- Pectoral implants
- Reduction thyroid chondroplasty (trachea shave)
- Rhinoplasty

## Transplants, Organ and Bone Marrow

**Pre-Authorization is required** for transplant surgeries and procedures and related travel and lodging expenses. Services directly related to organ transplants must be coordinated by their participating Provider. Proposed transplants will not be covered if considered experimental or investigational for the Member's condition. Pre-Authorization approval for transplants is based on these criteria:

- A written recommendation with supporting documentation received from their Provider,
- The request for the transplant is based on medical necessity,
- The requested procedure and associated protocol are not considered experimental or investigational treatment for the Member's condition,
- The procedure is performed at a facility, and by a Provider, approved by St. Luke's Health Plan, and
- Upon evaluation, the Member is accepted into the approved facility's transplant program and comply with all program requirements.

***Please Note:*** Corneal transplants are not considered an organ transplant and are covered under the medical-surgical Medical Benefit, and not under the transplant Medical Benefit.

Pre-Authorization Requests for transplants prior to evaluation can be sent to:

**Email:** [customercare@stlukeshhealthplan.org](mailto:customercare@stlukeshhealthplan.org)

**U.S. mail addressed to:**

St. Luke's Health Plan  
Attn: Medical Management  
PO Box 91010  
Seattle WA 98111

**Fax:** (888) 227-4256



## Recipient Services

Covered transplant recipient services include:

- Medical and surgical services directly related to the transplant procedure and follow-up care
- Diagnostic tests and exams directly related to the transplant procedure and follow-up care
- Inpatient facility fees and pharmaceutical fees incurred while an inpatient
- Pharmaceuticals administered in an outpatient setting
- Anti-rejection medications

## Donor Services

Donor expenses are covered if all criteria are met below:

- St. Luke's Health Plan approves the transplant procedure
- The recipient is enrolled in this Plan
- Expenses are for services directly related to the transplant procedure
- The donor services are not covered under any other health plan or government program

Covered donor expenses include:

- Donor typing, testing and counseling
- Donor organ selection, removal, storage and transportation of the surgical/harvesting team and/or the donor organ or bone marrow

When both the recipient and the donor are Members under the Plan, covered charges for all covered services and supplies received by both the donor and the recipient will be payable.

***Please Note:*** *If the Member chooses to donate an organ or bone marrow, donor expenses are not covered under the Plan unless the recipient is also enrolled in the Plan. However, complications arising from the donation would be covered to the extent that they are not covered under the recipient's health plan.*

The transplant services listed below (Organ and Bone Marrow) are not covered:

- Animal-to-human transplants
- Artificial or mechanical devices designed to permanently replace human organs
- Complications arising from the donation procedure if the donor is not a Plan Member
- Donor expenses for Member if they donate an organ or bone marrow, however, complications arising from the donation would be covered as any other illness to the extent they are not covered under the recipient's health plan.
- Transplants considered experimental and investigational, as defined by St. Luke's Health Plan

## Travel expenses

**Pre-Authorization is required for transplant related travel and lodging expenses.** Travel and lodging expenses for approved transplants and associated pre-transplant evaluations are available for the recipient and his/her guardian/caregiver and the donor. If authorized, travel expenses are paid up to a maximum of \$7,500 per transplant episode if the recipient is required to travel 30 miles or more from his or her home zip code for the Medically Necessary services related to an approved transplant, or if the facility requires the patient to remain within a certain distance of the facility during the transplant process. The maximum applies to all associated transportation, lodging and meal expenses incurred by the transplant recipient, companion(s) and donor(s).

## Vision Care

### Eye Exam

For Pediatric patients (under 19 years of age) one (1) preventive vision exam is covered annually and includes:

- Examination of the outer and inner parts of the eye
- Glaucoma screening
- Refraction
- Binocular balance testing
- Routine tests of color vision, peripheral vision and intraocular pressure
- Case history and recommendations

The following vision Medical Benefits are not covered:

- Preventive eye exams for adults
- Non-prescription sunglasses or safety glasses
- Radial keratotomy, Lasik and any other refractive surgery, orthoptics, pleoptics, vision therapy, visual analysis therapy or training related to muscular imbalance of the eye, and optometric therapy
- Services or supplies received principally for cosmetic purposes, other than contact lenses selected in place of eyeglasses (for pediatric patients)
- Specialized intraocular lenses associated with cataract surgery that correct vision disorders, such as Multifocal and Toric intraocular lenses.

For these pediatric patients, a contact lens exam to ensure proper fit of their contacts, and evaluating their vision with the contacts, is also covered.

## Hardware

For pediatric patients **only** (under 19 years of age), the Plan covers vision hardware needed to correct refractory vision problems under the Durable Medical Equipment Benefit. Covered hardware for pediatric patients includes frames, lenses and contact lenses needed to treat or as a result of a medical condition.

**Elective Contact Lenses** - Coverage is provided for elective contact lenses that are worn instead of glasses as a personal choice, versus a medical condition that prevents Member from wearing glasses.

- **Frames and Spectacle Lenses** - Several lens options are available under the Plan.

## **Hardware Extras**

Additional vision hardware services (extras) including, but not limited to, scratch resistant coating, tinting, etc. are not covered.

# Plan Exclusions and Limitations

In addition to limits and exclusions stated elsewhere in this Agreement, coverage is specifically excluded for each of the following items and any related services and charges:

## GENERAL EXCLUSIONS

Any service not Medically Necessary for the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of injury or illness, even if it is not specifically listed as an exclusion (except for specific services offered through the Preventive Care Medical Benefit); services requiring Prior Authorization for which Prior Authorization is not obtained; care in a setting when another setting of care is more cost-effective or appropriate for the treatment; services in excess of the maximum number of units or days specified in the Policy; services, devices or medications prescribed by or performed by a practitioner without appropriate licensure or training; services that are experimental, investigational, or unproven; naturopathy or naturopathic services; acupuncture; charges for failure to keep a scheduled visit, for the copying of medical records or for the completion of a Claim or administrative forms; services or supplies primarily for personal convenience or comfort, including but not limited to phones, televisions, guest services, deluxe or suite hospital room, air conditioners, diapers or hygiene items; private duty nursing; respite care, except as expressly covered by this Agreement; and transportation, except ambulance services to the nearest appropriate facility, if medically necessary and other forms of transportation would likely endanger their health (emergent air ambulance services are reviewed retrospectively).

Amounts for services provide by In-Network Providers in excess of the Allowed Amount, although In-Network Providers are not permitted to bill the Member for the amount in excess of the Allowed Amount. For Out-of-Network Providers, unless provided for otherwise under the No Surprises Act, amounts charged in excess of the Usual, Customary and Reasonable (UCR) rate are not covered and the Member may be billed by the Provider for the amount in excess of UCR.

Services received before their effective date of coverage or after the coverage termination date; services related to complications arising from non-covered services, including those services that would not have been covered by the St. Luke's Health Plan at the time the complication arose; services received outside the United States, except for services that qualify as Emergency Services or Urgent Care, in which case the Member may qualify to be repaid only under specific circumstances; services resulting from participation in declared or undeclared acts of terrorism, war, military service, participation in a riot or civil disobedience; services that are the result of any injury or illness incurred by Member while they are participating in the commission of a felony, unless the injury or illness is the result of domestic violence or a physical or mental health condition; services related to injuries incurred while under the influence of a controlled substance and/or alcohol; and autopsies.

Amounts for which the covered person has no obligation to pay, including (but not limited to) any charges by a facility owned or operated by the United States or any state or local government unless they are legally obligated to pay (excluding: (i) covered expenses rendered by a medical facility owned or operated by the United States Veteran's Administration when the services are provided to them for a non-service related illness or injury, and (ii) covered expenses rendered by a United States military medical facility to Member and they are not on active military duty); services for which they receive compensation or reimbursement through another contractual arrangement or Medical Benefit, other than employer-based disability payments, services for any condition, illness or injury that arises from or during the course of work for wages or profit that is

covered by state insurance workers' compensation and federal act or similar law; services or supplies payable under a contract or insurance for uninsured or underinsured (UIM) coverage, motor vehicle, motor vehicle no-fault, or personal injury protection (PIP) coverage, commercial premises or homeowner's medical premise coverage or other similar type of contract or insurance; services or supplies received without charge from a medical department maintained by an employer, a mutual benefit association, labor union, trustee or similar group; treatment furnished without charge or paid directly or indirectly by any government or for which a government prohibits payment of benefits; services provided by a Family Member (spouse, parent or child); services provided by clergy; and services provided in a school setting (such as early learning and K-12).

Physical examinations, reports or related services or supplies for the purpose of obtaining or maintaining employment, insurance, or licenses or permits of any kind, school admission, school sports clearances, immigration, foreign travel, medical research, camps, or government licensure, or other reasons not related to medical needs; and court ordered examinations or treatment of any kind, except when Medically Necessary.

Care provided by phone, fax, e-mail, Internet or Telemedicine, except as expressly covered under this Agreement; follow-up phone calls from Provider for test results, referrals, prescription refills or reminders that occur within seven (7) days of an in-person office visit; and calls to nurse line or to obtain educational material.

#### DENTAL SERVICES

Dental, oral surgery or orthodontic related services (unless accident-related or otherwise specifically covered by St. Luke's Health Plan); care of the teeth or dental structures; tooth damage due to biting or chewing; dental X-rays; extractions of teeth, impacted or otherwise (except as covered under St. Luke's Health Plan); orthodontia treatment, appliances, or services; procedures in preparation for dental implants, except as covered under the Dental Trauma Medical Benefits; services to correct malposition of teeth; treatments for Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction (TMJ); or dentures or related services.

#### DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME)

Biofeedback equipment; equipment or supplies whose primary purpose is preventing illness or injury; exercise equipment; items not manufactured exclusively for the direct therapeutic treatment of an illness or injured patient; items used outside the home primarily for sports/recreational activities; oral appliances, except to treat obstructive sleep apnea; over-the-counter items (except Medically Necessary crutches, walkers, standard wheelchairs, diabetic supplies and ostomy supplies are covered); personal comfort items including but not limited to air conditioners, lumbar rolls, heating pads, diapers or personal hygiene items; phototherapy devices related to seasonal affective disorder; supportive equipment/environmental adaptive items including, but not limited to, handrails, chair lifts, ramps, shower chairs, commodes, car lifts, elevators, and modifications made to the patient's home, place of work, or vehicle; standard car seats or strollers; push chairs; air filtration/purifier systems or supplies; water purifiers; allergenic mattresses; orthopedic or other special chairs; pillows; bed-wetting training equipment; corrective shoes; whirlpool baths; vaporizers; room humidifiers; hot tubs or other types of tubs; home UV or other light units (light boxes or specialized lamps or bulbs); home blood testing equipment and supplies (except diabetic equipment and supplies, and home anticoagulation meters); and repair or replacement of items not used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions or recommendations or items lost or stolen.

#### FAMILY PLANNING AND REPRODUCTIVE SERVICES

Abortion (voluntary termination of pregnancy) unless the life of the mother is endangered by the continued pregnancy, although complications of a non-covered abortion are covered; adoption expenses; infertility services or treatments to achieve pregnancy (regardless of the cause) including but not limited to artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization (IVF), or gamete intra-fallopian transplant (GIFT); reversal of sterilization; services or supplies for the treatment of sexual dysfunction such as, but not limited to, treatment of erectile dysfunction (including penile implants), anorgasm and premature ejaculation; however, medications for erectile dysfunction may be covered under the pharmacy benefit (please refer to the Prescription Drug List to determine coverage).

#### HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

When provided through home health benefits, custodial care; housekeeping or meal services; maintenance care; and shift or hourly care services; when provided through hospice care, custodial care or maintenance care, except palliative care to the terminally ill patient subject to the stated limits; financial or legal counseling services; housekeeping or meal services; services by Member or their family or volunteers; services not specifically listed as covered hospice services under St. Luke's Health Plan; supportive equipment such as handrails or ramps; room and board while Member reside in a skilled nursing facility, adult family home, or assisted living facility; and transportation.

#### MENTAL HEALTH AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

Marriage and couples counseling; family therapy, in the absence of an approved mental health diagnosis; nontraditional, alternative therapies that are not based on American Psychiatric and American Psychological Association acceptable techniques and theories; sensitivity training; and treatment for sexual dysfunctions and paraphilic disorders.

Alcoholics Anonymous or other similar Chemical Dependency programs or support groups; care necessary to obtain shelter, to deter antisocial behavior, to deter runaway or truant behavior; court-ordered or other assessments to determine the medical necessity of court-ordered treatments; court-ordered treatments or treatments related to deferral of prosecution, deferral of sentencing or suspended sentencing or treatments ordered as a condition of retaining driving rights, when no medical necessity exists; custodial care, including housing that is not integral to a Medically Necessary level of care, such as care necessary to obtain shelter, to deter antisocial behavior, to deter runaway or truant behavior or to achieve family respite; emergency patrol services; housing for individuals in a Partial Hospital Program or Intensive Outpatient Program; information or referral services; information schools; long-term or custodial care; nonsubstance related disorders; therapeutic group homes, residential community homes, therapeutic schools, adventure-based and/or wilderness programs or other similar programs; and treatment without ongoing concurrent review to ensure that treatment is being provided in the least restrictive setting required.

Learning disabilities and related services, educational testing or associated training; special education for the developmentally disabled; day habilitation services designed to provide training, structured activities and specialized assistance to adults, chore services to assist with basic needs, vocational and custodial services; vocational rehabilitation, work hardening or training programs regardless of diagnosis or symptoms that may be present, or for non-Medically Necessary education.

Providers accompanying children or family members to health care appointments that are not part of the direct provision of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services; ABA services by more than one program manager for each child/family (program development, treatment planning,

supervision); training of therapy assistants and family members (as distinct from supervision); parent/provider training or classes, except for one-on-one or one-on-two direct training of the parents of one identified patient; and services provided in a home school, or public/private school environment that are part of a child's schooling as distinct from specific ABA treatment services (e.g., acting as the "Teacher's Aide," or helping a child with homework)

#### PHARMACY BENEFIT

Any medication not included in the St. Luke's Health Plan formulary; any over-the-counter products, except as expressly covered by this Agreement; anorectics (any drug used for the purpose of weight loss); any prescription refilled in excess of the number specified by the physician, or any refill dispensed after one year from the physician's original order; diagnostic tests; medications labeled "Caution: Limited by federal law to investigational use" or that are otherwise Experimental or Investigational; medications used for cosmetic purposes, including but not limited to medications such as Botox, Minoxidil (Rogaine), Tretinoin (Retin A, covered through age 25); FDA Approved High Dollar Non-Essential Medications (new drug formulations and derivatives of similar agents already marketed, or combinations of agents that provide no additional clinical benefit to the currently available medications); high dollar kits and non-FDA approved patches; fluoride, except as required under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; immunological agents, biological sera, blood or blood plasma; infertility medications; with certain exceptions, medication which is to be taken by or administered to an individual, in whole or in part, while he or she is a patient in a licensed medical facility, rest home, sanitarium, extended care facility, convalescent medical facility, nursing home, or similar institution which operates on its premises, or allows to be operated on its premises, a facility for dispensing pharmaceuticals; non-legend medications other than insulin and certain over-the-counter medications required under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or as otherwise determined to be Medically Necessary; non-systemic contraceptives and implants, such as diaphragms, IUDs, cervical caps which would be covered through the Medical Benefits; or condoms which are over the counter; nutritional supplements; prescriptions which an eligible individual is entitled to receive without charge from any Workers' Compensation laws; therapeutic devices or appliances, including support garments and other non-medical substances, regardless of intended use, except those listed above; and vitamins, singly or in combination, except prenatal and federal legend vitamins to treat covered medical conditions, or as required by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA); certain narcotic analgesics or other addictive or potentially addictive medications that St. Luke's Health Plan determines not to cover; medications prescribed in quantities, dosages, or usages that are outside the usual standard of care for the medication in question or for the practitioner prescribing the drug; serum for allergies not administered in a Provider's office; prescriptions dispensed in a Provider's office unless expressly approved by St. Luke's Health Plan; compounded medications; botanical or herbal medicines; FDA-approved medications, medications or other items for non- approved indications, except when an FDA-approved drug has been proven clinically effective to treat such indication and is supported in peer-reviewed scientific medical literature; vitamin B-12 injections except to treat Vitamin B-12 deficiency; costs associated with expedited shipping of mail order or specialty medications, if requested by a Member; delivery costs for medications that are delivered;; and medications that are repackaged. Prescriptions billed with a DAW code of 3,4,5,6, and 9 are not covered unless clinical review ("Concurrent Review") deems them Medically Necessary.

#### PERSONAL CARE AND COSMETIC SERVICES

Services, supplies or surgery to repair, modify or reshape a functioning body structure for improvement of the patient's appearance or self-esteem (except for gender affirming surgery), including reduction of adipose tissue, abdominoplasty/panniculectomy and liposuction; dermabrasion, chemical peels or skin procedures to improve appearance or to remove scars or



tattoos; athletic training, bodybuilding, fitness training or related expenses; gym memberships (unless expressly set forth in this Agreement); prescription or non-prescription diets, nutritional and/or food supplements, vitamins, minerals or other dietary formulas or supplements, including weight loss shakes, unless expressly covered by this Agreement; exercise programs and equipment; complications resulting from bariatric surgery performed internationally; and complications arising from bariatric surgery performed at non-ASMBS centers; services provided by a spa, health club or fitness center, except covered Medically Necessary services provided within the scope of the Provider's license; and routine foot care, except as covered by St. Luke's Health Plan if Member has peripheral vascular disease or diabetes.

#### GENDER AFFIRMING SERVICES

Services that are considered cosmetic (including but not limited to) abdominoplasty, blepharoplasty, breast augmentation, calf implants, cheek/malar implants, chin augmentation (reshaping or enhancing the size of the chin), collagen injections, cryothyroid approximations (voice modification surgery), electrolysis (hair removal), face-lift, facial bone reduction, forehead lift, hair transplantation, laryngoplasty (reshaping of laryngeal framework/voice modification surgery), lip reductions/enhancement (decreasing/increase lip size), liposuction, mastopexy (breast lift), neck tightening, pectoral implants, reduction thyroid chondroplasty (trachea shave), and rhinoplasty.

#### TRANSPLANT SERVICES

Animal-to-human transplants; artificial or mechanical devices designed to permanently replace human organs; complications arising from the donation procedure if the donor is not a Plan Member; donor expenses for Member if they donate an organ or bone marrow, however, complications arising from the donation would be covered as any other illness to the extent they are not covered under the recipient's health plan; and transplants considered experimental and investigational.

#### CLINICAL TRIALS

Investigational items, services, tests, or devices that are the object of the clinical trial; interventions, services, tests, or devices provided by the trial sponsor without charge; data collection or record keeping costs that would not be required absent the clinical trial; any activity or service (e.g., imaging, lab tests, biopsies) necessary only to satisfy the data collection needs of the trial; services or interventions clearly not consistent with widely accepted and established standards of care; and interventions associated with treatment for conditions not covered by St. Luke's Health Plan

#### VISION CARE

Non-prescription sunglasses or safety glasses; radial keratotomy, Lasik or any other refractive surgery; orthoptics; pleoptics; vision therapy; visual analysis therapy or training related to muscular imbalance of the eye; optometric therapy; services or supplies received principally for cosmetic purposes other than contact lenses selected in place of eyeglasses; adult vision care including routine eye exams and hardware; additional vision hardware services including, but not limited to, scratch resistant coating, tinting, and the like; and specialized intraocular lenses associated with cataract surgery that correct vision disorders, such as Multifocal and Toric intraocular lenses.

# Eligibility and Enrollment

The Group decides, in consultation with St. Luke's Health Plan, which categories of its employees, retirees, and their Dependents are eligible for Medical Benefits, and establishes the other eligibility requirements of the Plan. In order to be accepted for enrollment and continuing coverage under this Agreement, individuals must meet all applicable requirements set forth below and satisfy the requirements of their employer.

Discovery of false or misrepresented information will result in the complete nullification of coverage and Member will be held financially responsible for any Medical Benefits paid. Examples of false or misrepresented information are failing to provide requested information, providing incorrect or incomplete information, enrolling an ineligible Dependent, and failing to comply with the Plan's requirements for eligibility. It is the Member's responsibility to notify their employer or St. Luke's Health Plan of all Dependent eligibility changes.

## Service Area

Enrollment for coverage under this Agreement is solely available to Groups in the Plan's Service Area. The Group is required to maintain its primary business location in the Service Area to continue to receive coverage under this Agreement.

## How to Enroll

In order to be accepted for enrollment and continuing coverage under this Agreement, individuals must meet all applicable requirements set forth below and satisfy the requirements established by the Group including any applicable Employer Waiting Period requirements.

## Application for Enrollment

Unless separately agreed to in writing by St. Luke's Health Plan and the Group, Members enroll themselves and any Dependent(s) by completing, signing, and submitting an Application for coverage by the Group and any other required enrollment materials to St. Luke's Health Plan. Applicants will not be enrolled, or premiums accepted, until the completed application information has been received and approved. St. Luke's Health Plan reserves the right to refuse enrollment to any person whose coverage under any contract for medical coverage issued by St. Luke's Health Plan has been terminated for cause.

## Limitation on Enrollment

Subject to prior approval by the Idaho Department of Insurance, St. Luke's Health Plan may limit enrollment, establish quotas or set priorities for acceptance of new applications if it determines that the Plan's capacity, in relation to its total enrollment, is not adequate to provide services to additional persons.

## Open Enrollment

Once any applicable Employer Waiting Period is satisfied, Members may enroll themselves and their Dependent(s) in the Plan during the Initial Eligibility Period, under a Special Enrollment Right, or, if offered by the Group, during an Annual Open Enrollment. Open Enrollment is a defined period when Members are allowed to enroll or make changes to their health care

Medical Benefit coverage. The Employer Waiting Period cannot exceed 90 days.

## Special Enrollment

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) gives the Member Special Enrollment rights if they have a change in status or an involuntary loss of other coverage as described below.

### Change in Status

If a Member declines Plan coverage and later acquires a new Dependent by marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption, they may be eligible to enroll themselves and their Dependents into the Plan if they request enrollment within 31 days after the marriage or 60 days after the birth, adoption or placement (see also *Dependents*). If they decline Plan coverage and later experience a change in status (as described below) and become eligible to participate in a premium assistance program under Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization Act of 2009, the Member has 60 days to enroll in the Plan.

In addition, a Special Enrollment period is available if a change of status occurs.

A change in status includes:

- Marriage, divorce or legal separation
- Death of their spouse or Dependent
- Birth, adoption, or placement for adoption of child
- A change in employment status, such as a switch between part-time and full-time
- Changes in their Dependent's age status or other factor affecting his or her eligibility
- Change in their eligibility to participate in a premium assistance program under Medicaid or CHIP

Any changes made in elections must be consistent with the change in status.

### Involuntary Loss of Other Coverage

Members may enroll for coverage under the Plan outside of Open Enrollment when one of the following requirements are met:

- The Member waived coverage under the Plan at the time this coverage was previously offered because they were already covered under another plan (a waiver of health plan Medical Benefits is required at Open Enrollment or when they become eligible for enrollment in the Medical Benefit Plan; forms are available from St. Luke's Health Plan).
- The Member's coverage under the other health care plan was terminated as a result of:
  - Loss of eligibility for the coverage (including as a result of legal separation, divorce, death, termination of employment or the reduction in the number of hours of employment).
- The Member, or their Dependent(s), were covered under Medicaid or CHIP but have since lost eligibility for either program.

St. Luke's Health Plan must receive a completed enrollment form within 30 days of the date their prior coverage ended. Coverage under the Plan will become effective on the first day of the month following loss of coverage.

## **Late Enrollment**

Late enrollments are not accepted. An enrollment is late if it is not submitted within the timeframe set forth in the sections *Enrollment Period* and *Special Enrollment Periods*.

# **Effective Date**

## **Effective Date of Coverage**

Coverage begins on the effective date specified by St. Luke's Health Plan and terminates at the end of that year.

## **Effective Date of Coverage for Dependents**

If a Member has one or more eligible Dependents on the date that they become covered under the St. Luke's Health Plan and they elect to enroll them, they will be covered on the date their coverage becomes effective. Only Dependents for which they have applied for enrollment and paid any required premiums will be covered.

## **Effective Date for Adding Dependents (Other than Newborn and Adopted Children)**

Any Dependents added after their effective date of coverage will be covered on the date determined by the Group. The Member must submit an enrollment form to St. Luke's Health Plan for any such Dependent and pay any required premiums. St. Luke's Health Plan must receive the form within 31 days of the date the Dependent becomes eligible for coverage. If the Dependent is a newborn or newly adopted child, St. Luke's Health Plan must receive the form within 60 days of the date of birth or date of placement. If they do not notify St. Luke's Health Plan within 31 days, the Dependent will be considered a late enrollee. **Late enrollments are not accepted.**

# Dependents

## Dependent Eligibility

Unless further restricted by the Group, Dependents become eligible for health plan Medical Benefits on either the day the Member becomes eligible or the day they acquire their first Dependent, whichever is later. Dependents can be enrolled in the health plan only if the Member is also enrolled. Dependents include only the following:

- Lawful spouse
- Domestic Partnership (same or opposite sex) who meets the criteria for eligibility (with a signed affidavit regarding eligibility of the Domestic Partnership; see *Plan Definitions* section.
- Member's (or their Domestic Partner's) Natural child, adopted child, child placed with them for legal adoption, stepchild, or other legally designated ward up to age 26; or,
- Natural child, adopted child, child placed with them for legal adoption, stepchild, legal guardianship or other legally designated ward that a health care professional determines is not capable of self-sustaining employment due to a physical or developmental disability on the date that the individual's coverage would otherwise terminate. Proof of such incapacity must be furnished to St. Luke's Health Plan within 31 days prior to the date the child reaches age 26. Thereafter, Members are required to resubmit proof of continued disability once per year.

Dependents do not include:

- A spouse who is legally separated or divorced unless coverage is required by court order or decree;
- A spouse, Domestic Partner or child living outside the United States or Canada;
- Any person who is on active duty in any armed forces of any country;
- Member or their spouse's natural child for whom they have given up rights through legal adoption;
- A parent of a Member, spouse or Domestic Partner; or
- The newborn child, spouse, or Domestic Partner of an enrolled Dependent child.

## Dependents Acquired Through Marriage/Domestic Partnership

If a Member acquires a new Dependent through marriage or Domestic Partnership, they must update their application within 31 days after the start of the marriage or Domestic Partnership for coverage to be effective, or their new Dependent will not be able to enroll until the next Open Enrollment.

Coverage for their new Dependent will become effective on the first of the month following the date the marriage or Domestic Partnership is established.

## **Dependent Children**

An enrollment form is required to enroll any Dependent child. Their Dependent will not be denied based on health status. Additional information may be required to establish a Dependent child's eligibility.

## **Natural Newborn Children**

If the Member acquires a new Dependent through birth, they must update their application within 60 days from the date of birth. For coverage to exist for a newborn, the child must be enrolled within this timeframe. Coverage for the facility nursery charges will be in effect until discharge from this Level of Care under the enrolled mother's coverage. Until the newborn is enrolled, there is no coverage for physician services or other facility Levels of Care other than nursery. If enrolled, coverage becomes effective on the date of birth. This provision does not apply to grandchildren of the Subscriber or Spouse/Domestic Partner.

## **Adopted Children Acquired**

Any child under age 18 whom a Member legally adopts or who is Placed (as that term is defined below) with them for adoption is eligible on the date of Placement. If the child is Placed but not adopted, all Medical Benefits stop when the child is removed permanently from the Placement and the legal obligation of the adoptive parent terminates or the adoptive parent rescinds, in writing, the agreement of adoption or agreement assuming financial responsibility.

If the enrollment form, with documentation to support legal adoption, is received within 60 days of placement, coverage becomes effective on the date of placement. If the date of placement is within 60 days of a newborn's date of birth, coverage becomes effective on the date of birth. St. Luke's Health Plan may request added information.

## **Children Acquired Through Legal Guardianship**

If the enrollment form, with documentation to support legal guardianship, is received within 60 days of obtaining legal guardianship, Dependent coverage becomes effective on the date of the order. St. Luke's Health Plan may request added information.

## **Children Covered Under Qualified Medical Child Support Orders**

If the enrollment form, with notification of the medical child support order (from the Member, the custodial parent or a state agency administering Medicaid) is received within 31 days of the order, coverage becomes effective on the date of the order. If received after 31 days, coverage becomes effective on the first of the month after St. Luke's Health Plan has the enrollment information. (See *Qualified Medical Child Support Orders* for more information.)

## **Continued Eligibility for a Child who is Disabled**

Coverage may be extended beyond age 26 if the child is:

- Incapable of self-sustaining employment due to mental or physical disability on the date that the child's coverage would otherwise terminate; and
- Depends primarily on the Member for support.

Contact the Group for details and enrollment forms. For continued eligibility of a child who is disabled, the enrollment form must be received within 31 days of the date the child reaches age 26. Thereafter, Members may be required to resubmit proof of continued disability up to once per year.

Proof may be defined as a copy of the state disability check for the current month. If a copy of the state disability check for the current month is not available, the Provider of care must complete a physician statement to confirm the following:

- Name of Dependent child;
- Dependent child's date of birth;
- Dependent child's Plan ID number;
- Date of onset of disabling condition;
- Description of disabling condition and functional limitations;
- Expected duration of disabling condition and prognosis; and
- Signature of Provider.

The Member must also submit the following:

- Signed statement that they provide total support for this child;
- Dependent's social security number; and
- Date information provided.

A child who is disabled will continue to be eligible for coverage until the Member fails to submit proof that dependence is due to disability, or if coverage terminates for them or the Dependent due to any of the reasons noted under *Termination of Coverage*.

## **Court-Ordered Dependent Coverage**

When the Member or their lawful spouse are required by a court or administrative order to provide health insurance coverage for a child, the child will be enrolled in their family coverage according to the minimum extent required by applicable law.

## **Qualified Medical Child Support Orders**

St. Luke's Health Plan will provide medical coverage to certain children (called alternate recipients) if directed by a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO), including Medical Benefits for adopted children. Either the Member, the child's custodial parent, or a state agency administering Medicaid may submit notification of the QMCSO to the Plan.

A medical child support order:

- Is any decree, judgment, order (including approval of settlement agreement) or administrative notice from a state court or state agency with jurisdiction over the child's support
- Recognizes the child as an alternate recipient for plan Medical Benefits
- Provides for, based on a state domestic relations law (including a community property law), the child's support or health plan coverage



A QMCSO is a medical child support order that is qualified under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993. A medical child support order is qualified if it creates or recognizes the existence of an alternate recipient's right to receive Medical Benefits under the Plan and specifies this information as follows:

- Member's name and last known address
- Each alternate recipient's name and address (or state official/agency name and address if the order provides)
- Reasonable description of coverage the alternate recipient is entitled to receive
- Coverage effective date
- How long the child is entitled to coverage
- That St. Luke's Health Plan is subject to the order

If the medical child support order is a QMCSO:

- St. Luke's Health Plan notifies the Member and the alternate recipient of the Plan's procedures and allows the alternate recipient to name a representative to receive copies of any QMCSO notices
- Alternate recipient coverage begins on the first of the month after the QMCSO is received
- If a Dependent premium is required, their specific authorization isn't needed to establish the payroll deduction, which would be retroactive to the alternate recipient's coverage effective date
- St. Luke's Health Plan pays In-Network Providers directly for covered services; when an alternate recipient, custodial parent, legal guardian or Member pays a covered expense, St. Luke's Health Plan reimburses the person who paid the expense

If the medical child support order is not a QMCSO, St. Luke's Health Plan will notify the Member and each alternate recipient of the specific reason it does not qualify, along with procedures for submitting a corrected medical child support order.

The enrollment form with the notification of the medical child support order needs to be received within 31 days of the order for coverage to become effective on the date of the order. If the enrollment information is received after 31 days of the order, coverage will become effective on the first of the month following the date the Plan receives the enrollment information for coverage.

# Termination of Coverage

For participating Members, coverage ends at these events:

- Termination of the Agreement
- Termination of the Agreement by the Group with or without cause, by providing St. Luke's Health with written notice of termination not less than 30 days before the proposed termination date.
- The Group fails to satisfy the minimum group participation and/or employer Premium contribution requirements of St. Luke's Health Plan.
- Non-payment of premiums
- The Member no longer meet eligibility requirements for coverage (see *Eligibility and Enrollment*); coverage ends the last day of the month after the date they no longer meet the eligibility requirements
- The Member performs an act or practice that constitutes fraud or made an intentional misrepresentation of material fact under the terms of this Plan
- The Group materially breaches this Agreement
- St. Luke's Health Plan ceases to offer coverage in the market under which this coverage is issued.

For participating Dependents, coverage ends at these events:

- The date Member coverage ends for any reason
- The last day for which any required Plan premiums are paid
- The last day of the month in which the Member dies
- The Member and their spouse legally divorce (St. Luke's Health Plan must receive a copy of the decree); or a Domestic Partnership is dissolved or terminated
- The last day of the month in which the Dependent child reaches age 26, unless disabled (see *Continued Eligibility for a Child who is Disabled*)

If St. Luke's Health Plan cancels or declines to renew a Member's policy, St. Luke's Health Plan will extend Medical Benefits for a pregnancy that commenced while the policy was in force and for which Medical Benefits would have been payable had the policy remained in force.

## Reinstatement

If any renewal premium is not paid within the time granted the insured for payment, a subsequent acceptance of the premium by St. Luke's Health Plan or by any agent duly authorized by St. Luke's Health Plan to accept such premium, without requiring in connection therewith an application for reinstatement, shall reinstate the policy provided. However, if St. Luke's Health Plan or its authorized agent requires an application for reinstatement and issues a conditional receipt for the premium tendered, the policy will be reinstated upon approval of the application by St. Luke's Health Plan or, lacking this approval, upon the forty-fifth day following

the date of such conditional receipt unless St. Luke's Health Plan has previously notified the insured in writing of its disapproval of such application. The reinstated policy shall cover only loss resulting from such accidental injury as may be sustained after the date of reinstatement and loss due to such sickness as may begin more than ten (10) days after such date. In all other respects, the insured and insurer shall have the same rights thereunder as they had under the policy immediately before the due date of the defaulted premium, subject to any provisions endorsed hereon or attached hereto in connection with the reinstatement. Any premium accepted in connection with a reinstatement shall be applied to a period for which premium has not been previously paid, but not to any period more than sixty (60) days prior to the date of reinstatement.

## **Fraud or Misrepresentation**

If a Member intentionally misrepresent material facts concerning insurability during enrollment, coverage for them and/or their Dependents may be terminated or rescinded during the two (2) year period after a Member enroll. In addition, coverage for the Member and/or their Dependents may also be terminated or rescinded at any time if a Member makes any material misrepresentation in connection with insurability. Please note, if coverage is terminated or rescinded as described above, the termination is retroactive to the Effective Date of coverage.

If a Member intentionally misrepresents material facts or commits fraud in connection with Benefits or Eligibility, coverage for the Member and/or their Dependents may be terminated or rescinded.

## **Premium**

### **Premiums**

The Group is responsible to pay the Premium to St. Luke's Health Plan timely. Subject to the provisions contained herein, the amount of Premiums will remain the same until the end of the term of this Agreement. However, the Plan may reasonably modify the Premium amount if federal or state law or regulations mandate that the Plan adjust Medical Benefits under the Agreement. Premiums are payable on the first day of each month.

If the Group fails to pay premiums as agreed, this Policy will terminate without notice at the end of the period for which the last premiums were paid. A payer financial institution's return of or refusal to honor a check or draft constitutes nonpayment of premiums. This Policy does not have a grace period; however, if the Group makes payment of the premiums within thirty (30) days after the due date, St. Luke's Health Plan will reinstate this Policy as of the due date. No benefits are available during this thirty (30)-day period unless all premiums are properly paid before expiration of the thirty (30)-day period. St. Luke's Health Plan reserves the right to apply ten percent (10%) annualized interest fee on any portion of the balance owed by the Group to St. Luke's Health Plan that remains unpaid thirty (30) days or more beyond the original due date.

### **Refund of Premium**

St. Luke's Health Plan will refund any unused collected premium. However, the Plan is entitled to offset from the refund any amount incurred from Claims paid before the policy was canceled.

## **Extension of Medical Benefits for Continuous Loss**

Except for covered services related to a continuous loss that commenced while the Agreement was in force, all Medical Benefits under St. Luke's Health Plan terminate when the Agreement terminates. An extension of Medical Benefits related to a continuous loss applies to a single inpatient stay where the Member is admitted prior to the termination of the Agreement and their stay extends after the Agreement termination date, including any inpatient readmission that occurs within 30 days of their initial discharge. Such Medical Benefits are subject to limitations in the Agreement that have not exhausted as of the termination date, such as day or visit limitations or maximum dollar amounts allotted for Medical Benefits.

# Claim and Appeal Procedures

## Claim

A Claim means any request for a St. Luke's Health Plan Medical Benefit made by a Member (Claimant) or their Authorized Representative (an individual acting on behalf of the Claimant in obtaining or appealing a Medical Benefit Claim). The Authorized Representative must be designated as such in writing with an approved form signed by the Claimant (except for Urgent Care Medical Benefits or Urgent Care appeals). Once an Authorized Representative is selected, all information and notifications should be directed to that representative until the Claimant states otherwise.

*Note: The St. Luke's Health Plan does not consider an assignment of Medical Benefits to confer standing or assign any other rights afforded to the Member or their beneficiary, other than the payment of Medical Benefits. A Member or their beneficiary may not assign or transfer rights to a Provider of services, other than assignment of Medical Benefit payment. A Provider cannot be a designated Authorized Representative but can submit additional information to support the appeal.*

## How to File a Claim for Plan Medical Benefits

In most cases, In-Network Providers, hospitals and licensed vision Providers submit Claims, and there are no Claim forms for the Member to complete. If a Member receives a bill for services from a Provider because the Provider did not file a Claim, the Member should write their name, Member ID number and group number on the bill and send a copy to the Claim address on their ID card. (A group number can also be found the ID card.) Any bill submitted must contain:

- Provider name
- Provider tax ID information
- Specific date(s) of service
- Diagnosis codes (ICD-10 codes) or description of the symptoms or a diagnosis
- Specific medical procedure codes (CPT codes) or description of the medical service or procedure.
- Specific dental procedure codes (CDT codes) or description of the dental service or procedure.

It is best to submit charges as soon as reasonably possible. However, charges for covered services submitted to the Plan must be received within 12 months of the date the service was rendered or received, or sixty (60) calendar days after Provider first receives notice that the Plan is secondary, whichever is later. Claims will not be considered for Medical Benefits if received after these timeframes (see ID card for the St. Luke's Health Plan Claim address). Claim forms are available from the Plan by contacting Member Services. Claims submitted more than 12 months after the services were provided will be denied unless notice was given, or proof of loss was filed as soon as reasonably possible.

Adjustments or corrections to Claims can be made only if the supporting information is submitted to the Plan within 12 months after the Claim was first processed unless the additional information relating to the Claim was filed as soon as reasonably possible.

When St. Luke's Health Plan receives a notice of Claim from Member or their Provider, St. Luke's Health Plan will furnish the Member with any additional forms needed to process their Claim within 15 days of the receipt of the notice. If additional information is not requested within 15 days, Members can assume that no further information is needed from the Member to process their claim.

## Claim Types

- **Pre-service Claim** means any Claim for a Medical Benefit for which the Plan requires approval before medical care is obtained.
- **Concurrent Claim** means any Claim reconsidered after initial approval for an ongoing course of treatment which results in a reduced or terminated Medical Benefit.
- **Post-service Claim** means any Claim for a Medical Benefit that is not a Pre-Service Claim and is a request for payment or reimbursement for covered services already received.
- **Urgent Care Claim** means a Claim for medical care or treatment that, if normal pre-service standards are applied, would in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the Claimant's medical condition:
  - Seriously jeopardize the Claimant's life, health or ability to regain maximum function
  - Subject the Claimant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment requested.

## Claim Procedure

St. Luke's Health Plan will:

- Interpret and construe Plan provisions, as necessary
- Reach factually supported conclusions
- Make a full and fair review of each denied Claim, as amended
- Make all Claim and appeal determinations to the extent permitted by this Agreement and applicable law

Medical Benefit issues include questions regarding Medical Necessity, health care setting, level of care, experimental or investigational treatment, cost-sharing requirements or other limits on otherwise covered Medical Benefits.

All Claims for Medical Benefits are subject to a full and fair review within a reasonable time appropriate to the medical circumstances. Payment of any Medical Benefits will be subject to the applicable Deductibles, Coinsurance, Copays and Medical Benefit maximums. St. Luke's Health Plan will notify the Claimant in writing of the decision regarding a Claim review.

It is important to note St. Luke's Health Plan itself holds the authority, responsibility, and discretion to deny Claims based on administrative issues such as questions of eligibility status for the Member, their spouse and their Dependents; change in status; Special Enrollment; termination and continuation of coverage; and qualified medical child support orders. The same appeal process described below applies to administrative issues.

## Written Notice and Payment of Claim for Loss

Written notice of Claim for a loss must be given to the Plan within twenty (20) days after the occurrence or commencement of any loss covered by the policy or as soon thereafter as is reasonably possible. Notices can be sent to St. Luke’s Health Plan at 800 E. Park Blvd. Boise, ID 83712, or given to any authorized agent of the St. Luke’s Health Plan. Plan shall pay indemnitee immediately upon receipt of due written proof of loss.

## Legal Action

Legal action may be brought to recover on this policy before the expiration of sixty (60) days after written proof of loss has been furnished in accordance with the requirements of this Agreement. No such action shall be brought after the expiration of three years after the time written proof of loss is required to be furnished.

## Adverse Medical Benefit Determination

An Adverse Medical Benefit determination means a denial, decrease or termination of a Medical Benefit. This includes a failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for a Medical Benefit based on:

- A determination that a Medical Benefit is not covered by the Plan;
- A determination based on an individual’s eligibility to participate in the Plan, or to receive Medical Benefits at time of service (these appeals are considered administrative and are handled by St. Luke’s Health Plan, see *Claim Procedure* above);
- A determination that a service is experimental, investigational, or not Medically Necessary; and/or
- A rescission of coverage (these appeals are considered administrative and are handled by St. Luke’s Health Plan, see *Claim Procedure* above).

The different Claim types have specific times for approval, payment, or request for information or denial, as shown below:

Timetable for Adverse Medical Benefit Determinations for Claim Procedures			
Type of Review	Notice of Incorrectly Filed Claim – Notice to Claimant	Notice of Incomplete Claim – Notice to Claimant	Initial Medical Benefit Determination by St. Luke’s Health Plan
Pre-Service Claim	5 days	Not required (may be part of extension notice)	Reasonable period = 15 days 15-day extension with notice to Claimant Reasonable period suspended up to 45 days on incomplete Claim
Concurrent Claim	n/a	n/a	In time to permit appeal and determination before treatment ends or is reduced
Post-Service Claim	n/a	Not required (may be part of extension notice)	Reasonable period = 30 days 15-day extension with notice to Claimant Reasonable period suspended up to 45 days on incomplete Claim



<b>Urgent Care Claim</b>	24 hours	24 hours	72 hours No extensions from Claimant
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If the Member’s Claim is denied wholly or in part, they will receive a written notice of Adverse Medical Benefit Determination:

- For a denial of a Pre-Service Claim, such notice will be in the form of a letter from St. Luke’s Health Plan explaining the denial.
- For a denial of a Post-Service Claim, their Explanation of Benefits (EOB) will serve as their notice of Adverse Medical Benefit Determination.

Both the letter and the EOB will include information necessary to identify the Claim, such as the date of service, Provider name, amount billed, as well as the reason for the denial(s). Denial reasons include:

- Reference to the specific Plan provisions on which the determination is based;
- Reference to any internal Plan rule, guideline, protocol or similar criterion relied upon in making the decision;
- For Pre-Service Claims, the standards for Medical Necessity relied upon in making the Adverse Medical Benefit Determination (for example, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment used in making the decision) if applicable;

In addition to the above information, the notice of Adverse Medical Benefit Determination will include:

- A description of any additional material or information needed to support their Claim and an explanation of why it is needed; and
- A description of the available appeal process (including both internal and external review processes, which is also outlined below), as well as information about how to initiate the appeal process.

## Appeals

### Member Appeal Rights

St. Luke’s Health Plan Members have the right to:

- Request an appeal if coverage of any health care service is denied, either wholly or in part. An appeal is an internal review of an Adverse Medical Benefit Determination. Members have **180 days** from the date of the Adverse Benefit Determination to file an appeal.
- Appoint a person of their choosing to represent them. This person is known as an Authorized Representative and can be, but does not have to be, an attorney.
- Reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and information relevant to their Claim and relied upon in making the Adverse Medical Benefit Determination. This information will be made available upon request at no cost.
- Submit written comments, documents, and other information relevant to their appeal.

- Obtain the title and qualifications of the person(s) who participated in the Adverse Medical Benefit Determination, if the determination was based on Medical Necessity, or if the Plan determined the services are/were experimental or investigational.
- Request an Expedited (“Fast Track”) Appeal.
  - If their appeal situation is urgent, call the St. Luke’s Health Plan Appeals Coordinator at (833) 353-0312.
  - Urgent is defined as a situation in which, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the Claimant’s medical condition, the application of the time periods for making non-urgent appeal determinations could seriously jeopardize the Claimant’s life, health, or ability to regain maximum function; or would subject the Claimant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment that is the subject of the Claim.
  - If the Plan determines the situation **is** urgent, the Plan will issue an appeal determination within **72 hours** of receiving the appeal request.
  - If the Plan determines the situation is **not** urgent, the Plan will issue a determination within the non-urgent appeal timeframe. Non-urgent appeal determination timeframes are as follows:
    - **30 days** if the services have not been rendered yet (pre-Service)
    - **60 days** if the services have already been rendered (post-Service)
  - The Member or their Authorized Representative will be notified by the Plan within **72 hours** if their request for an Expedited Appeal was denied.
  - Expedited Appeals are only available for services denied *prior* to being rendered (Pre-Service) or services that are ongoing (Concurrent). If the service has already been completed (Post-Service), an Expedited Appeal review will not be granted; the Plan will issue an appeal determination within the Post-Service appeal timeframe of **60 days**.

## How to Request an Appeal

Appeal Request Forms are available by contacting Member Services. Use of this form is not required, but it is helpful in guiding Members to provide the information that is necessary and/or most helpful for us to render an appeal determination.

Appeals can be submitted in writing via mail, fax or email using the contact information below:

<b>Medical Appeals</b>	
Mail:	Attn: Appeals Coordinator P.O. Box 91010 Seattle, WA 98111
Email:	<a href="mailto:appeals@stlukeshealthplan.org">appeals@stlukeshealthplan.org</a>
Fax:	(888) 400-1654
Phone:	(833) 353-0312 <i>Note: only urgent appeals can be submitted via telephone.</i>

Pharmacy Appeals	
Mail:	St. Luke's Health Plan, Inc. Attn: Pharmacy Benefit Manager 800 East Park Blvd Boise, ID 83712
Email:	<a href="mailto:rx@slhealthplan.org">rx@slhealthplan.org</a>
Fax:	(833) 850-0171
Phone:	(833) 975-1281 <i>Note: only urgent appeals can be submitted via telephone.</i>

## Internal Appeal Process

The Member or their Authorized Representative must file their appeal within **180 days** of the date on their Adverse Medical Benefit Determination notice (Internal Appeal). Non-urgent appeals must be submitted to the Plan in writing.

The Member or their Authorized Representative are encouraged to include comments, documents, records and/or other information that explains the reason they believe their Claim should be approved. St. Luke's Health Plan will send a letter acknowledging receipt of their appeal within five (5) calendar days.

Upon receipt by the Plan, an Appeals Coordinator will prepare the documents and any applicable documentation from the Agreement for review and discussion by the Plan's Appeal Committee or Chief Medical Officer. The individual who made the original Adverse Medical Benefit Determination will not be involved in the Internal Appeal Process. The Appeal Committee or Chief Medical Officer will review the information and make a recommendation to St. Luke's Health Plan to either uphold or overturn the original Adverse Medical Benefit Determination.

St. Luke's Health Plan will notify the Member in writing of the decision to either uphold the original denial or to overturn it within **30 calendar days** of Pre-Service Claims or **60 calendar days** of Post-Service Claims. If the determination is to uphold the original denial based on Medical Necessity, the letter will also include information on how to initiate the next level of appeal (External Review).

## Health Claims External Review

Members are entitled to an External Review if the denial was based on medical judgment or rescission. Denials that do not involve rescission or medical judgment (*i.e.*, denials that involve only contractual or legal interpretation without any use of medical judgment) are not eligible for External Review.

External Review requests can be submitted to the Plan using the same address, email address, or fax as an Internal Appeal request. The contact information is listed above under *How to Request an Appeal*. External Review requests can also be submitted directly to the Idaho Department of Insurance:

<b>Idaho Department of Insurance</b>
Idaho Department of Insurance Attn: External Review 700 W. State St., 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Boise, ID 83720 <a href="https://doi.idaho.gov/consumers/health-insurance/external-review">https://doi.idaho.gov/consumers/health-insurance/external-review</a>

For more information or to request an External Review Request Form, visit the Idaho Department of Insurance website at [www.doi.idaho.gov](http://www.doi.idaho.gov), or call **1-800-721-3272**.

For **non-urgent** care:

- The Member or their Authorized Representative must first submit an Internal Appeal request and receive a final internal Adverse Medical Benefit Determination *before* they request External Review. Their request for External Review must be received within **120 days** of date indicated on their final internal Adverse Medical Benefit Determination.
- St. Luke's Health Plan will conduct a preliminary review to determine if the Claim is eligible for External Review within **(14) calendar days** of the receipt of a request. The Plan will send the Member notification if its decision within one business day thereafter.

For **urgent** care:

- The Member or their Authorized Representative can request an expedited External Review to occur at the *same time* as an Internal Appeal.
- St. Luke's Health Plan will conduct a preliminary review to determine if the Claim is eligible for External Review within **two (2) business days** of the receipt of the request. The Plan will send the Member notification of its decision within one business day thereafter.

This notice of decision of eligibility for External Review will include the following:

- If their request is found ineligible for External Review, the reason for its ineligibility;
- If their request is eligible for External Review but is not complete, a description of any additional information or materials required to complete their request;
- If their request is complete and eligible for External Review, contact information for the Independent Review Organization (IRO) assigned by the Idaho Department of Insurance, and details about their right to provide additional information.

If eligible for External Review, St. Luke's Health Plan will forward the Member's appeal, including all information and documentation considered in both the original denial and the Internal Appeal, as well as any additional documentation they submit, to the Idaho Department of Insurance within **five (5) business days** of determining the Claim is eligible for External Review.

The Idaho Department of Insurance will assign an Independent Review Organization (IRO) within **seven (7) business days** of the receipt. The IRO consists of independent physicians or other specialists that are not associated with St. Luke's Health Plan. If applicable, they will possess medical training specific to the services that are the subject of the appeal.

The IRO will notify the Member that their appeal has been received and will allow them at least **ten (10) business days** to submit any additional information to the IRO that they wish to be considered in reviewing their appeal. The IRO will review all information submitted, make a determination, and notify both the Member and St. Luke's Health Plan of the results within **forty-five (45) calendar days**. Decisions regarding Urgent Care Claims are made as expeditiously as the Member's health condition requires, but not later than **72 hours** after receipt of a request.

The decision made by the IRO is final and binding on both the Member and the Plan. This means if the Member requests an External Review, they will be bound by the IRO's decision and will not have any further review opportunity for the Plan's denial after the IRO issues its final decision. If the IRO overturns the original Adverse Medical Benefit Determination, the Appeals Coordinator will forward that decision to the appropriate party for Claim payment or, if a Pre-Service Claim, approval of the request for authorization.

Under Idaho law, the IRO is immune from any claim relating to its opinion rendered or acts or omissions performed within the scope of its duties unless performed in bad faith or involving gross negligence.

If the Member chooses not to use the External Review process and have exhausted the Claim and Internal Appeal procedures, they have the right to file a civil action. The civil action must be filed within **180 days** from the date of the written notice of St. Luke's Health Plan's final determination.

## Grievance Procedure

A Grievance is an expression of dissatisfaction with any aspect of the care or service the Member received as a member of St. Luke's Health Plan, except for an Adverse Benefit Determination (ABD). ABDs are handled through the appeal process described above.

If a Member has a Grievance concerning any matter except an ABD, the Member or their Authorized Representative can submit it to St. Luke's Health Plan by mail, email, fax, or verbally by telephone. See below for contact information:

Grievances	
Mail:	St. Luke's Health Plan, Inc. Attn: Grievances PO Box 91010 Seattle, WA 98111
Email:	<a href="mailto:appeals@stlukeshealthplan.org">appeals@stlukeshealthplan.org</a>
Phone	(833) 478-5853
Fax:	(888) 400-1654

All Grievances must include:

- Member name; address; telephone number;
- St. Luke's Health Plan Member number;
- The nature of the grievance;
- Why the Member is asking for reconsideration; and
- Anything that they think will help their Grievance.

The Plan will issue a written response to the Member or to their Authorized Representative within five (5) business days for urgent Grievances, and 30 business days for non-urgent Grievances, of receiving the Grievance. If additional information is needed, or there are extenuating circumstances, the Plan may extend the notification timeframe by up to 14 days. The Member will be informed of any need for additional information as well as the reason for extension.

When a response is provided, it will contain the following information:

- The names, titles and qualifying credentials of the person or persons participating in the first level Grievance review process (the reviewers);
- A statement of the reviewers' understanding of the Member's Grievance and all pertinent facts;
- The reviewers' response in clear terms and the basis for the response;
- A reference to the evidence or documentation used as the basis for the response;
- Notice of their right to contact the Idaho Department of Insurance;

## **Independent Dispute Resolution**

Per the protections of the No Surprises Act apply (see below), if the St. Luke's Health Plan and an Out-of-Network Provider or facility that rendered services cannot agree on how much the Provider or facility will be paid by St. Luke's Health Plan for an item or service, the dispute may be submitted by either St. Luke's Health Plan or the Provider to Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR).

Plan Members are not involved in the IDR process (though their medical information will be shared with the certified IDR entity). Regardless of what the certified IDR entity decides, the Member will not have any additional cost-sharing for the affected item or service under the Plan, as their Cost-Sharing is limited to the In-Network costs for that item or service.

To the extent that the Member has a dispute about any Adverse Medical Benefit Determination they received relating to the item or service, they can appeal that decision under St. Luke's Health Plan's Claim and Appeal Procedures.

# Coordination of Benefits

When the Member or their Dependents have healthcare coverage under more than one health benefit plan, St. Luke's Health Plan will coordinate Medical Benefits with the other healthcare coverage according to the Coordination of Benefits (COB) rules issued by the Idaho Department of Insurance (see IDAPA 18.04.14.).

The Coordination of Benefits (COB) provision applies when a person has health care coverage under more than one **plan**. Applicable to this section only, **plan** is defined below.

The order of benefit determination rules govern the order in which each **plan** will pay a claim for benefits. The **plan** that pays first is called the **Primary plan**. The **Primary plan** must pay benefits in accordance with its policy terms without regard to the possibility that another **plan** may cover some expenses. The **plan** that pays after the **Primary plan** is the **Secondary plan**. The **Secondary plan** may reduce the benefits it pays so that payments from all **plans** do not exceed 100% of the total **Allowable expense**.

## Definitions (for this section only)

- A. A **plan** is any of the following that provides benefits or services for medical or dental care or treatment. If separate contracts are used to provide coordinated coverage for Members of a group, the separate contracts are considered parts of the same plan and there is no COB among those separate contracts.
1. A **plan** includes: Group and nongroup insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, closed panel plans or other forms of group or group-type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.
  2. A **plan** does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefits for non-medical components of long-term care policies; Medicare supplement policies; Medicaid policies; or coverage under other federal governmental plans, unless permitted by law.
- Each contract for coverage under (1) or (2) is a separate **plan**. If a **plan** has two parts and COB rules apply only to one of the two, each of the parts is treated as a separate **plan**.
- B. **This plan** means, in a COB provision, the part of the contract providing the health care benefits to which the COB provision applies, and which may be reduced because of the benefits of other **plans**. Any other part of the contract providing health care benefits is separate from this **plan**. A contract may apply one COB provision to certain benefits, such as dental benefits, coordinating only with similar benefits, and may apply another COB provision to coordinate other benefits.
- C. The order of benefit determination rules establish whether this **plan** is a **Primary plan** or **Secondary plan** when the person has health care coverage under more than one **plan**.



When this **plan** is primary, it determines payment for its benefits first before those of any other **plan** without considering any other **plan's** benefits. When this **plan** is secondary, it determines its benefits after those of another **plan** and may reduce the benefits it pays so that combination of all the applicable **plan** benefits do not exceed 100% of the total Allowable Expense.

- D. Allowable Expense is a health care expense, including Deductibles, Coinsurance and Copayments, that is covered at least in part by any **plan** covering the person. When a **plan** provides benefits in the form of services, the reasonable cash value of each service will be considered an Allowable Expense and a benefit paid. An expense that is not covered by any **plan** covering the person is not an Allowable Expense. In addition, any expense that a Provider by law or in accordance with a contractual agreement is prohibited from charging a covered person is not an Allowable Expense.

The following are examples of expenses that are not Allowable Expenses:

1. The difference between the cost of a semi-private hospital room and a private hospital room is not an Allowable Expense, unless one of the Plans provides coverage for private hospital room expenses.
  2. If a person is covered by two or more **plans** that compute their benefit payments on the basis of usual and customary fees or relative value schedule reimbursement methodology or other similar reimbursement methodology, any amount in excess of the highest reimbursement amount for a specific benefit is not an Allowable Expense.
  3. If a person is covered by two or more **plans** that provide benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, an amount in excess of the highest of the negotiated fees is not an Allowable Expense.
  4. If a person is covered by one **plan** that calculates its benefits or services on the basis of usual and customary fees or relative value schedule reimbursement methodology or other similar reimbursement methodology and another **plan** that provides its benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, the **Primary plan's** payment arrangement shall be the Allowable Expense for all **plans**. However, if the Provider has contracted with the **Secondary plan** to provide the benefit or service for a specific negotiated fee or payment amount that is different than the **Primary plan's** payment arrangement and if the Provider's contract permits, the negotiated fee or payment shall be the Allowable Expense used by the **Secondary plan** to determine its benefits.
  5. The amount of any benefit reduction by the **Primary plan** because a covered person has failed to comply with the **plan** provisions is not an Allowable Expense. Examples of these types of **plan** provisions include second surgical opinions, precertification of admissions, and preferred Provider arrangements.
- E. **Closed panel plan** is a **plan** that provides health care benefits to covered persons in the form of services through a panel of Providers who are primarily employed by the **plan** and that excludes coverage for services provided by other Providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.
- F. Custodial Parent is the parent awarded custody by a court decree or, in the absence of a court decree, is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the Calendar/Plan Year excluding any temporary visitation.

## Order of Benefit Determination Rules

When a person is covered by two or more **plans**, the rules for determining the order of benefit payments are as follows:

- A. The **Primary plan** pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits under any other **plan**.
- B. (1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2), a **plan** that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with this regulation is always primary unless the provisions of both **plans** state that the complying **plan** is primary.  
  
(2) Coverage that is obtained by virtue of membership in a group that is designed to supplement a part of a basic package of benefits and provides that this supplementary coverage shall be excess to any other parts of the **plan** provided by the contract holder. Examples of these types of situations are major medical coverages that are superimposed over base **plan** hospital and surgical benefits, and insurance type coverages that are written in connection with a **Closed panel plan** to provide Out-of-Network benefits.
- C. A **plan** may consider the benefits paid or provided by another **plan** in calculating payment of its benefits only when it is secondary to that other **plan**.
- D. Each **plan** determines its order of benefits using the first of the following rules that apply:
  - (1) Non-Dependent or Dependent. The **plan** that covers the person other than as a dependent, for example as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree is the **Primary plan** and the **Plan** that covers the person as a dependent is the **Secondary plan**. However, if the person is a Medicare beneficiary and, as a result of federal law, Medicare is secondary to the **Plan** covering the person as a dependent; and primary to the **Plan** covering the person as other than a dependent (e.g. a retired employee); then the order of benefits between the two **Plans** is reversed so that the **Plan** covering the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree is the **Secondary plan** and the other **Plan** is the **Primary plan**.
  - (2) Dependent Child Covered Under More Than One Plan. Unless there is a court decree stating otherwise, when a Dependent child is covered by more than one **plan**, the order of benefits is determined as follows:
    - a. For a Dependent child whose parents are married or are living together, whether or not they have ever been married:
      - The **plan** of the parent whose birthday falls earlier in the calendar year is the **Primary plan**; or
      - If both parents have the same birthday, the **plan** that has covered the parent the longest is the **Primary plan**.
    - b. For a Dependent child whose parents are divorced or separated or not living together, whether or not they have ever been married:

- (i) If a court decree states that one of the parents is responsible for the Dependent child's health care expenses or health care coverage and the **plan** of that parent has actual knowledge of those terms, that **plan** is primary. This rule applies to **plan** years commencing after the **plan** is given notice of the court decree;
    - (ii) If a court decree states that both parents are responsible for the Dependent child's health care expenses or health care coverage, the provisions of Subparagraph (a) above shall determine the order of benefits;
    - (iii) If a court decree states that the parents have joint custody without specifying that one parent has responsibility for the health care expenses or health care coverage of the Dependent child, the provisions of Subparagraph (a) above shall determine the order of benefits; or
    - (iv) If there is no court decree allocating responsibility for the Dependent child's health care expenses or health care coverage, the order of benefits for the child are as follows:
      - The **plan** covering the Custodial Parent;
      - The **plan** covering the spouse of the Custodial Parent;
      - The **plan** covering the non-custodial parent; and then
      - The **plan** covering the spouse of the non-custodial parent.
  - c. For a Dependent child covered under more than one **plan** of individuals who are the parents of the child, the provisions of Subparagraph (a) or (b) above shall determine the order of benefits as if those individuals were the parents of the child.
- (3) Active Employee or Retired or Laid-off Employee. The **plan** that covers a person as an active employee, that is, an employee who is neither laid off nor retired, is the **Primary plan**. The **plan** covering that same person as a retired or laid-off employee is the **Secondary plan**. The same would hold true if a person is a Dependent of an active employee and that same person is a Dependent of a retired or laid-off employee. If the other **plan** does not have this rule, and as a result, the **plans** do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored. This rule does not apply if the rule in Subsection D (1) above can determine the order of benefits.
  - (4) COBRA or State Continuation Coverage. If a person whose coverage is provided pursuant to COBRA or under a right of continuation provided by state or other federal law is also covered under another **plan**, the **plan** covering the person as an employee, member, subscriber or retiree or covering the person as a Dependent of an employee, member, subscriber or retiree is the **Primary plan** and the COBRA or state or other federal continuation coverage is the **Secondary plan**. If the other **plan** does not have this rule, and as a result, the **plans** do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored. This rule does not apply if the rule in Subsection D (1) above can determine the order of benefits.

- (5) Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The **plan** that covered the person as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree longer is the **Primary plan** and the **plan** that covered the person the shorter period of time is the **Secondary plan**.
- (6) If the preceding rules do not determine the order of benefits, the Allowable Expenses shall be shared equally between the **plans** meeting the definition of **plan** as stated in this *Coordination of Benefits* section. In addition, **This plan** will not pay more than it would have paid had it been the **Primary plan**.

## Effect on the Medical Benefits of This Plan

- A. When **This plan** is secondary, it may reduce its benefits so that the total benefits paid or provided by all **plans** during a plan year are not more than the total Allowable Expenses. In determining the amount to be paid for any Claim, the **Secondary plan** will calculate the benefits it would have paid in the absence of other health care coverage and apply that calculated amount to any Allowable Expense under its **plan** that is unpaid by the **Primary plan**. The **Secondary plan** may then reduce its payment by the amount so that, when combined with the amount paid by the **Primary plan**, the total benefits paid or provided by all **plans** for the Claim do not exceed the total **Allowable Expense** for that Claim. In addition, the **Secondary plan** shall credit to its **plan** Deductible any amounts it would have credited to its Deductible in the absence of other health care coverage.
- B. If a covered person is enrolled in two or more **Closed panel plans** and if, for any reason, including the provision of service by a non-panel Provider, benefits are not payable by one **Closed panel plan**, COB shall not apply between that **plan** and other **Closed panel plans**.

## Right to Receive and Release Needed Information

Certain facts about health care coverage and services are needed to apply these **COB** rules and to determine benefits payable under **This plan** and other **plans**.

In administering these COB rules, St. Luke's Health Plan may get the facts it needs from or give them to other organizations or persons for the purpose of applying these rules and determining benefits payable under **This plan** and other **plans** covering the person claiming benefits. St. Luke's Health Plan need not tell, or get the consent of, any person to do this. Each person claiming benefits under **This plan** must give St. Luke's Health Plan any facts it needs to apply these COB rules and determine benefits payable.

## Facility of Payment

A payment made under another **plan** may include an amount that should have been paid under **This plan**. If it does, St. Luke's Health Plan may pay that amount to the organization that made

the payment. That amount will then be treated as though it were a benefit paid under **This plan**. St. Luke's Health Plan will not have to pay that amount again.

The term "payment made" includes providing benefits in the form of services, in which case "payment made" means the reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

## Timely Payment of Benefits

If the **plans** cannot agree on the order of benefits within 30 calendar days after the **plans** have received all of the information needed to pay the Claim, the **plans** shall immediately pay the Claim in equal shares and determine their relative liabilities following payment, except that no **plan** shall be required to pay more than it would have paid had it been primary.

## Right of Recovery

If the amount of the payments made by St. Luke's Health Plan is more than it should have paid under this COB provision, it may recover the excess from one or more of the persons it has paid or for whom it has paid; or any other person or organization that may be responsible for the benefits or services provided for the covered person. As stated above, the term "payments made" includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

## Notice to Covered Persons

If the Member is covered by more than one health benefit plan, and they do not know which is their **Primary plan**, the Member or their Provider should contact any one of the health plans to verify which plan is primary. The health plan that they contact is responsible for working with the other plan to determine which is primary and should let the Member know within thirty (30) calendar days.

Questions about Coordination of Benefits? Contact Member Services at (833) 478-5853.

## Pre-Authorization when the St. Luke's Health Plan is Secondary

With the exception of the specific services listed in the Medical Benefit Pre-Authorization List, Pre-Authorization is not required if the Plan offered by St. Luke's Health Plan is their **Secondary plan**. St. Luke's Health Plan will honor a determination of Medical Necessity made by their **Primary plan**. This means that if their **Primary plan** determines a service to be Medically Necessary, the Plan offered by St. Luke's Health Plan will apply its normal benefit, subject to all of its other Plan provisions and exclusions. If their **Primary plan** determines a service is not Medically Necessary, coverage under the Plan offered by St. Luke's Health Plan will be denied. Benefits which are excluded by their **Primary plan** but payable under the Plan offered by St. Luke's Health Plan are subject to medical review by St. Luke's Health Plan.

# Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA)

If a Member's coverage terminates under this group health plan, they may be eligible under COBRA to continue the same coverage they had when coverage ended, on a temporary self-pay basis. COBRA requires this continuation of coverage be made available to covered persons – called qualified beneficiaries under COBRA – on the occurrence of a qualifying event, described below.

Continuation of coverage under COBRA is not automatic; the Member must elect COBRA by completing and properly providing an enrollment form to their Plan Administrator. The Member must contact their Plan Administrator and apply for continuation of their group health plan coverage within 60 days of the termination of coverage. The member will also be required to pay applicable contributions for themselves and/or their Dependent(s) directly to the Plan.

This Plan provides no greater COBRA rights other than what COBRA requires. Nothing in this Plan is intended to expand their rights beyond COBRA's requirements.

This section describes Member's COBRA coverage rights; contact the Plan Administrator for more information.

## Who is a COBRA Qualified Beneficiary?

Employees and covered Dependents who participate in the Plan may be eligible for COBRA in the case of a qualifying event if they are also a qualified beneficiary. Qualified beneficiaries include:

- Employees enrolled in the Plan on or before the date of the event that causes them to lose that coverage (called the qualifying event)
- An employee's spouse enrolled in this Plan on the day before the qualifying event
- The employee's Dependent children enrolled in this Plan on the day before the qualifying event
- Dependent children born to, or placed for adoption with, the employee while the employee has COBRA coverage
- Dependent children acquired through legal guardianship while the employee has COBRA coverage
- Dependent children covered under medical child support orders while the employee has COBRA coverage

*Please note: Domestic Partners are not eligible for COBRA or other continuation of coverage.*

A qualified beneficiary may choose to continue any one benefit, or all of the benefits that s/he was enrolled in prior to the qualifying event.

Certain qualified beneficiaries may have additional COBRA rights and possible tax credits if they are certified by the Department of Labor or state labor agencies as eligible under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002. (Contact the Plan Administrator for more details.)



## Qualifying Events and Continuation Periods

Qualifying events and continuation periods are explained below:

- If employment terminates (voluntary or involuntary), the Member and their covered Dependents may continue coverage under this Plan for up to 18 months unless the cause is gross misconduct
- If the Member's work hours are reduced, resulting in loss of group coverage, the Member and their covered Dependents may continue coverage under this Plan for up to 18 months
- If the Member and their spouse legally divorce or are legally separated, their spouse and covered Dependent children may continue coverage under this Plan for up to 36 months
- When the Member's covered Dependent child no longer meets the Plan's definition of Dependent child, the child may continue coverage under this Plan for up to 36 months
- When the Member becomes Medicare eligible, their Medicare-ineligible covered Dependents may continue coverage under this Plan for up to 36 months
- If the Member dies their spouse or covered Dependents may continue coverage under this Plan for up to 36 months
- If the Member enters into uniformed service, they may elect to continue Plan coverage for up to 24 months (See also Military Leave under Other Continuation of Coverage section)
- If while covered under COBRA the Member (or a COBRA-eligible Dependent) become disabled, they may be eligible for a coverage extension. The 18-month COBRA coverage period may be extended another 11 months for a total of 29 months of COBRA coverage. To qualify for this disability extension, the Member must:
  - Meet the definition of disability under Title II or XVI of the Social Security Act at the time of the qualifying event or within the first 60 days of COBRA coverage
  - Provide the Plan Administrator with notice of the disability determination (from Social Security) on a date that is both within 60 days after the determination date and before the original 18-month coverage ends. If the beneficiary who is disabled is later determined by Social Security to no longer be disabled, the Plan Administrator must receive notice within 31 days of that determination date

## When COBRA Coverage Ends

COBRA coverage ends before the 18-, 29-, or 36-month period expires for any of these reasons:

- The Plan no longer provides group health coverage to any employees
- The COBRA coverage premium is not paid within 31 days of the due date (the initial grace period is 45 days after the first COBRA election)
- The qualified beneficiary becomes covered under another group health plan with no applicable pre-existing condition exclusion or limit
- The qualified beneficiary enrolls in Medicare
- If an extension from 18 to 29 months was granted due to a disability and the individual receives a final determination from the Social Security Administration stating the individual is no longer disabled, the individual must notify the plan administrator within 31 days after the date of that determination. Coverage ends on the last day of the month through which contribution payments have been received, so long as that date is within the first month that begins within 31 days after the final determination date, and after the initial 18-month COBRA coverage period

*Please note: Once COBRA coverage ends, it cannot be reinstated.*



## Contribution Payment Requirements

Members are required to pay any and all applicable contributions for themselves and their covered Dependents. They must pay the first contribution for continuation of coverage within 45 days of the date the Member elects COBRA coverage. Contributions consist of the full cost of coverage, plus 2% (a total of 102%).

If Members are eligible and receive a disability extension under Title II or XVI of the Social Security Act, their contribution will be 102% of the full cost of coverage.

If the cost for similarly situated active employees or Dependents changes, the COBRA coverage premium also changes (only once a year before the Plan year begins).

Failure to make payments within the designated time frame will result in automatic termination of coverage to the last day of the month for which a complete payment was made. Payments need to be sent directly to FCH at One Union Square, 600 University St., Ste. 1400, Seattle, WA 98101. For COBRA related questions, call (877) 749-2032 to speak with a COBRA representative.

## Election Requirements

At the time of a qualifying event, such as termination of employment or reduction in hours, the qualified beneficiary must be notified of the right to continue coverage within 14 days of St. Luke's Health Plan receiving notice of the qualifying event from the Plan Administrator.

In the case of divorce, Legal Separation or the ineligibility of a Dependent, the employee or qualified beneficiary is responsible for notifying the Plan Administrator within 61 days of the divorce, Legal Separation or ineligibility of a Dependent. The Plan is not obligated to offer COBRA benefits to beneficiaries if this notification is not received within the 61 days.

## What Coverage Must Be Offered When Electing COBRA?

The Plan is required to continue the following coverage for COBRA participants:

- **Identical coverage** – The qualified beneficiary must be offered the opportunity to continue the coverage received immediately before the qualifying event.
- **Independent rights** – Once a qualifying event occurs each qualified beneficiary has an independent right to elect continuation coverage. For example, if an employee and family are offered COBRA coverage, each individual can make an election. Although an active employee must be covered to cover a Dependent, it is possible to have COBRA coverage for a Dependent when the former employee does not elect to continue coverage.
- **Open Enrollment** – Qualified beneficiaries must be notified of any benefit or carrier changes at Open Enrollment and be given the opportunity to change coverage just like active employees. Qualified beneficiaries have the same rights as active employees during Open Enrollment to add or drop Family Members, change coverages and change carriers, if available. However, if a qualified beneficiary adds a Family Member during Open Enrollment who was not previously covered, that added Family Member does not become a qualified beneficiary.
- **Modification of coverage** – If an employer modifies coverage for similarly situated active employees; the coverage for qualified beneficiaries must be modified similarly. Some examples of modifications include benefit enhancements, elimination of coverage and changes in carriers.

# Other Continuation of Coverage

## Leaves of Absence

### Family Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) Leaves

The FMLA gives employees on FMLA leave the same rights and privileges as active employees. The FMLA allows an eligible employee to take 12 weeks of leave each year (during a rolling backward Calendar Year/Plan Year) for the following reasons:

- The birth or adoption of the employee's child
- Placement of a foster child in the employee's care
- To care for the employee's spouse, parent or child if suffering from a serious health condition
- An employee's own disabling serious health condition
- For qualifying exigencies arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, parent or child is on active duty with the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves (Examples of "qualifying exigencies" include, but may not be limited to, short-notice deployment, military events and related activities, certain childcare and related activities, financial and legal arrangements, counseling, rest and recuperation, post-deployment activities and/or any other event that the employer and employee agree constitute a qualifying exigency)

The FMLA also allows an eligible employee to take 26 weeks of leave each year (during a rolling backward Calendar Year/Plan Year) for the following reasons:

- For military caregiver leave, an employee may be allowed for up to 26 weeks of leave, per service member, per injury, to care for a Family Member who (1) is an current member of the Armed Forces, Guard or Reserves; (2) who suffered a serious illness or injury or whose pre-existing illness or injury was aggravated in the line of duty while on active duty; and (3) is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, therapy, outpatient care, or has been placed on the temporary disability retirement list by the military. (Please note the Department of Labor (DOL) has established an order of familial priority for Family Members seeking this leave; the Group is within its rights to request information seeking proof and/or clarification of the relationship to the service member.)

If Members are granted an authorized leave of absence from work, they may choose to continue coverage under this group health plan during the approved leave time as long as they pay their required contribution. Since continuation of coverage under this provision is not extended automatically, please contact the Plan Administrator for more information. Any and all applicable monthly contributions must be paid directly to the Plan in accordance with the Agreement established before the leave. Failure to make the established monthly contribution may result in the termination of group health benefits. Eligible employees will receive information about the option of continuing their health benefits on a self-pay basis under COBRA.

If a Member's leave is a paid leave, the contribution costs will continue to come out of their paycheck as a deduction. If their leave is unpaid, they are responsible for paying their share of contribution directly.

If a Member loses coverage during their leave because they did not make the required contributions, they may enroll again within 31 days of returning to work. Their coverage will start on the first day of the month after they return to work and make any required contributions.

## Military Leave

If a Member takes a military leave, for active duty or training, they will be covered under the Plan's health benefits as if they were an active employee, as long as they are in an active paid status.

If the Member's uniformed service lasts beyond their paid time or 31 days, whichever is longer, they may continue coverage under the self-pay option for approved leaves (as described in the COBRA section) according to their rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). While continued, coverage will be what was in force on the last day they worked as an active employee. However, if benefits decrease for others in the class, theirs will also decrease.

If the Member returns to active employment promptly after their military leave, in accordance with federal law, their medical and pharmacy coverage will be reinstated on the date they return to the active payroll. The Member must submit a written request for reinstatement within 90 days of their discharge from active military service, or one year following a hospitalization which continues after they are discharged from active military service.

## All Leave of Absences

If a Member's coverage has been terminated, they must re-enroll within 31 days of returning to work in a benefit-eligible status. There is no automatic re-enrollment process. Contact the Plan Administrator for further questions.

# Subrogation, Reimbursement, & Recovery

## Payment of Claims When Another Person or Entity is Liable

When the Member or their Dependents suffer an illness or injury that is caused by another person or entity, regardless of whether the person or entity is also an insured under the Plan or any other insurance policy (hereinafter a “Recovery Party”), the Recovery Party or an insurer for the Recovery Party may be liable for damages or may be willing to pay money in settlement of a Claim. This Plan does not pay benefits or services that the Member or their Dependents receive for illnesses and injuries when the medical expenses are the responsibility of, or are paid by, a Recovery Party who has caused the illness or injury or a Recovery Party’s insurer. In situations where St. Luke’s Health Plan determines that a Recovery Party may be liable for Member or their Dependent’s medical expenses, St. Luke’s Health Plan may nonetheless agree to conditionally pay the Claims relating to such expenses in advance pending a final determination of a) whether a Recovery Party or the Member is responsible for such expenses instead of the Plan; and/or b) the Claims are excluded from coverage under this Plan. Each Member agrees to reimburse St. Luke’s Health Plan for such conditional payments when a final determination is made by St. Luke’s Health Plan that it is not responsible for the payment of such Claims.

## St. Luke’s Health Plan’s Recovery Rights

If St. Luke’s Health Plan pays benefits under this Plan for an illness or injury and St. Luke’s Health Plan determines that a Recovery Party is or may be responsible or liable for damages to the Member or their Dependents, St. Luke’s Health Plan has the right to recover the benefits paid under this Plan and is subrogated to all and any of Member or their Dependent’s rights to recover from the Recovery Party and to any money paid in settlement of a claim, but only up to the amount of the benefits provided by the Plan. St. Luke’s Health Plan is entitled to reimbursement and/or recovery under this section from any judgment, award, and other types of recovery or settlement received by the Member, their Dependents and/or Member or their Dependent’s representatives, regardless of whether the recovery is characterized as relating to medical expenses. St. Luke’s Health Plan and the Plan is entitled to reimbursement even if the Member or their covered Dependent is not made whole or fully compensated by the recovery. The Member and their Dependents are required by this Plan, and agree, to promptly notify St. Luke’s Health Plan when the terms of this section might apply. If the person for whom Plan benefits are paid is a minor, any amount recovered by the minor, the minor’s trustee, guardian, parent, or other representative, shall be subject to this section regardless of whether the minor’s representative has access to or control of the recovered funds. The provisions of this section are binding upon the Member and their Dependents and binding upon their and their Dependent’s guardians, heirs, executors, assigns and other representatives.

## Agreement by Members

As a condition to receiving benefits under the Plan, the Member and their Dependent(s) agree (a) that St. Luke’s Health Plan is automatically subrogated to, and has a right to receive restitution

from, any right of recovery the Member may have against a Recovery Party as the result of an accident, illness, injury, or other condition involving the Recovery Party (hereinafter "Recovery Event") that causes the Member or their Dependents to obtain Medical Benefits that are paid for by St. Luke's Health Plan; (b) that St. Luke's Health Plan is entitled to receive as restitution the proceeds of any judgment, settlement, or other payment paid or payable in satisfaction of any claim or potential claim that the Member or their Dependents have or could assert against a Recovery Party to the extent of all Benefits paid by St. Luke's Health Plan or payable in the future because of the Recovery Event; (c) not to bring or assert a make whole, common fund, collateral source or other apportionment action or claim in contravention of St. Luke's Health Plan's rights described in this section; (d) not to spend or otherwise disburse funds received under a settlement agreement or from an insurance company or other Recovery Party until such time as St. Luke's Health Plan has been paid or reimbursed for the amounts due to St. Luke's Health Plan under this section; (e) to cooperate with St. Luke's Health Plan to effectuate the terms of this section and to do whatever may be necessary to secure the recovery by St. Luke's Health Plan of the amounts it paid, including execution of all appropriate papers, furnishing of information and assistance; and (f) not to interfere with St. Luke's Health Plan's rights under this section and not to take any action that prejudices St. Luke's Health Plan's rights under this section, including settling a dispute with a Recovery Party without protecting St. Luke's Health Plan's rights under this section. If requested to do so by St. Luke's Health Plan, the Member and their Dependents must execute a written Recovery Agreement as a condition of payment on claims arising from injuries or illnesses caused by third parties. If their Dependent is so injured or has such an illness, both the Member and their Dependent are required to execute the written Recovery Agreement. If the injured or ill person is a minor or legally incompetent, the written Recovery Agreement must be executed by the person's parent(s), managing conservator and/or guardian. If the Member or their Dependent has died, the Member or their Dependent's legal representative must execute the Recovery Agreement. The costs of any Plan benefits paid must be returned to St. Luke's Health Plan immediately in the event that St. Luke's Health Plan requests that a written Recovery Agreement be signed and there is a failure or refusal to execute the Recovery Agreement. St. Luke's Health Plan's rights, however, are not waived if St. Luke's Health Plan does not request a written Recovery Agreement under this section.

## **Constructive Trust and First Lien**

Any funds the Member and/or their Dependents (or Member or their Dependent's agent or attorney) recover by way of settlement, judgment, or other award from a Recovery Party or from Member or their Dependent's own insurance due to a Recovery Event shall be held by the Member and/or their Dependents (or Member or their Dependent's agent or attorney) in a constructive trust for the benefit of St. Luke's Health Plan until St. Luke's Health Plan's rights under this section have been satisfied. St. Luke's Health Plan will have, and the Member and their Dependents grant, a first lien upon any recovery, whether by settlement, judgment, arbitration or mediation, that the Member or their covered Dependents receive or are entitled to receive from any source, regardless of whether the Member or their covered Dependents receive a full or partial recovery. Any settlement or recovery received shall first be deemed to be reimbursement of medical expenses paid under this Plan. These first priority rights will not be reduced due to the Member or their covered Dependent's own negligence. The Member and/or their Dependents (or Member or their Dependent's agent or attorney) will be personally liable for the restitution amount required under this section to the extent that St. Luke's Health Plan does not recover that amount due to a failure by the Member and/or their Dependents (or Member or their Dependent's agent or attorney) to follow the required process.

## **Rights to Intervene and Sue**

St. Luke's Health Plan shall have the right to intervene in any lawsuit, threatened lawsuit, or settlement negotiation involving a Recovery Party for purposes of asserting and collecting St. Luke's Health Plan's restitution and other interests described in this section. St. Luke's Health Plan shall have the right to bring a lawsuit against, or assert a counterclaim or cross-claim against, the Member (or their agent or attorney) for purposes of collecting restitution or other interests under this section, to enforce the constructive trust required by this section, and/or take any other action to collect funds from the Member. St. Luke's Health Plan is entitled to institute these actions in its own name or in Member or their Dependent's name or to join any action brought by the Member, their Dependents or their representatives, with or without specific consent, and to participate in any judgment, award or settlement to the extent of St. Luke's Health Plan's interest. The Member and their Dependents must notify St. Luke's Health Plan before filing any suit or settling any claim so as to enable St. Luke's Health Plan to participate in the suit or settlement to protect and enforce St. Luke's Health Plan's rights under this subrogation provision. The Member and their Dependents agree to keep St. Luke's Health Plan fully informed and advised of all developments in any such suit or settlement negotiations. The amount that St. Luke's Health Plan is entitled to recover from the Member and their Dependents under this section is specifically unreduced by any attorney, legal or other fees and costs incurred by the Member or their Dependents in seeking recovery from a Recovery Party or a Recovery Party's insurer, except if St. Luke's Health Plan specifically agrees in writing to participate in these fees. If the Member or their Dependents fail to fully cooperate with St. Luke's Health Plan or its designated agents in asserting its rights under this section, St. Luke's Health Plan may reduce or deny coverage under the Plan and offset against any future Claims. Further, St. Luke's Health Plan may compromise with the Member or their Dependents on any issue involving subrogation/restitution in a way that includes the Member or their Dependents surrendering the right to receive further benefits under the Plan.

## **Excess Payment**

St. Luke's Health Plan will have the right to recover any payment made in excess of the obligations of St. Luke's Health Plan under this Agreement. Such recoveries are limited to a time period of 12 months (or 24 months for a COB error) from the date a payment is made unless the recovery is due to fraud or intentional misrepresentation of material fact by the Member or their Dependents. This right of recovery will apply to payments made to the Member, their Dependents, or Providers. If an excess payment is made by St. Luke's Health Plan to the Member, they agree to promptly refund the amount of the excess. St. Luke's Health Plan may, at its sole discretion, offset any future benefits against any overpayment. St. Luke's Health Plan may recover excess payment made to a provider by withholding other amounts payable to the Provider from any plan under which St. Luke's Health Plan makes payment.



# Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills (No Surprises Act)

## What is Balance Billing (sometimes called Surprise Billing)?

When the Member sees a doctor or other health care Provider, they may owe certain Out-of-Pocket costs, such as a Copayment, Coinsurance, and/or a Deductible. The Member may have other costs or may be required to pay the entire bill if they see a Provider or visit a health care facility that is not in the St. Luke's Health Partners, First Choice Health, or First Health networks (see Page 4).

Out-of-Network describes Providers and facilities that have not signed a contract with the St. Luke's Health Plan, or the networks used by St. Luke's Health Plan. Out-of-Network Providers may be permitted to bill the Member for the difference between what the St. Luke's Health Plan agreed to pay under the Plan and the full amount charged for a service. This is called Balance Billing. This amount is likely more than In-Network costs for the same service and might not count toward their annual Out-of-Pocket limit.

Surprise Billing is an unexpected Balance Bill. This can happen when the Member cannot control who is involved in their care, like when they have an emergency or when they schedule a visit at an In-Network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an Out-of-Network Provider.

## You Are Protected from Balance Billing for Emergency Services

If the Member has an emergency medical condition and get Emergency Services from an Out-of-Network Provider or facility, the most the Provider or facility may bill the Member is their Plan's In-Network cost-sharing amount (such as Copayments and Coinsurance). The Member **cannot** be Balance Billed for these Emergency Services. This includes services the Member may get after they are in stable condition, unless they give written consent and give up their protections not to be Balance Billed for these post-stabilization services.

## You Are Protected from Balance Billing for Out-of-Network Providers at In-Network Facilities

When the Member get services from an In-Network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain Providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those Providers may bill the Member is their Plan's In-Network cost-sharing amount, unless they give written consent and give up their protections not to be Balance Billed for these post-stabilization services.

Certain Providers cannot ask the Member to waive their protections under the No Surprises Act. They include Providers of emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These Providers **cannot** Balance Bill the Member and may **not** ask them to give up their protections not to be Balance



Billed. If the Member has other services at these In-Network facilities, Out-of-Network Providers **cannot** balance bill them, unless the Member gave written consent and give up their protections.

Members are never required to give up their protections from Balance billing. Members also are not required to get care out-of-network. They can choose a Provider or facility in the St. Luke's Health Plan's network.

## **When balance billing is not allowed, you also have the following protections:**

- Members are only responsible for paying their share of the cost (like the Copayments, Coinsurance, and Deductibles that they would pay if the Provider or facility was In-Network). The Plan will pay Out-of-Network Providers and facilities directly.
- The Plan generally must:
  - Cover Emergency Services without requiring the Member to get approval for services in advance (Pre-Authorization).
  - Cover Emergency Services by Out-of-Network Providers.
  - Base what the Member owes the Provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an In-Network Provider or facility and show that amount on their explanation of benefits.
  - Count any amount the Member pays for Emergency Services or out-of-network services toward their Deductible and Out-of-Pocket limit.

Visit [www.cms.gov/nosurprises](http://www.cms.gov/nosurprises) for more information about their rights under federal law.

The Idaho Department of Insurance has also published an overview of the No Surprises Act on its website at [doi.idaho.gov/nosurprises](http://doi.idaho.gov/nosurprises).

If the Member believes they have been wrongly billed under their Plan, they may call 1-800-985-3059 to contact federal authorities or (208) 334-4319 or [consumeraffairs@doi.idaho.gov](mailto:consumeraffairs@doi.idaho.gov) to reach the Consumer Affairs division of the Idaho Department of Insurance. If the medical service at issue was performed in a state with an All-Payer Model Agreement with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), such as Maryland, Vermont and Pennsylvania, they may call that applicable state Department of Insurance for more information about their rights under applicable state law.

### **Maryland:**

Maryland Insurance Administration  
200 Saint Paul Place, Suite 2700  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-2272  
Phone: (410) 468-2000

### **Pennsylvania:**

Pennsylvania Insurance  
Department  
1326 Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
17120  
Phone: (717) 787-7000

### **Vermont:**

Vermont Department of Financial  
Regulation  
89 Main Street  
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3101  
Phone: (802) 828-3301

# Plan Definitions

**Adopted** means a child for which a Member has legally assumed the parental rights and responsibilities.

**Adverse Medical Benefit Determination** means a denial, decrease or termination of a Medical Benefit. This includes a failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part) for a Medical Benefit based on: a determination that a Medical Benefit is not covered by St. Luke's Health Plan; a determination based on an individual's eligibility to participate in St. Luke's Health Plan, or to receive plan Medical Benefits at time of service (these appeals are considered administrative and are handled by St. Luke's Health Plan, see *Claim Procedure* above); a determination that a service is experimental, investigational, or not Medically Necessary; and/or rescission of coverage (these appeals are considered administrative and are handled by St. Luke's Health Plan, see *Claim Procedure* above).

**Agreement or Master Policy** means the document that describes requirements for eligibility and enrollment, covered services, limitations and exclusions, and other terms and conditions that apply to participation in the St. Luke's Health Plan.

**Allowed Amount** means the maximum amount considered for payment by St. Luke's Health Plan for a Medically Necessary covered service.

Cost-sharing amounts for the following services are determined by the Qualifying Payment Amount (see related definition):

- Emergency Services rendered by Out-of-Network Providers and facilities;
- Certain non-Emergency Services furnished by Out-of-Network Providers at certain In-Network facilities, and
- Out-of-network air ambulances

The Member is responsible for paying the difference between the Plan's payment and the provider's actual charges for services rendered by an Out-of-Network Provider who is not a covered Recognized No Surprises Provider.

**Ancillary Services** means services related to Emergency Services, such as radiology, anesthesiology, pathology, neonatology, laboratory, and specialty services needed to respond to unexpected complications (such as those delivered by a neonatologist or cardiologist) and also in situations where an In-Network Provider is not available at the In-Network facility to provide the services.

**Annual Deductible or Deductible** is the amount the Member or their family must pay each Calendar/Plan Year before St. Luke's Health Plan will pay for covered Medical Benefit and Pharmacy Benefit services.

**Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)** is a term describing principles, techniques and interventions used in assessment and treatment to increase behaviors that are helpful, reduce behaviors that are harmful and demonstrate that the interventions employed are responsible for the improvement of behavior in individuals with autism. ABA incorporates many techniques for understanding and changing behavior and may involve a multi-disciplinary approach to increase language and

communication skills, improve attention, focus, social skills and memory. ABA is flexible in that it can be adapted to meet the needs of each individual.

**Aural Therapy** is a service provided to both children and adults who have been diagnosed with hearing loss. Typically, Aural Therapy is an intervention that takes place following hearing aid fitting or cochlear implant hook-up. It involves working with the hearing-impaired individual providing the patient with strategies to better utilize his or her listening skills. Aural Therapy involves training the brain to process and understand auditory information, teaching how to monitor speech through listening, and learning to develop listening skills in each ear separately and integrated. Usually provided by a speech therapist.

**Authorized Representative** means an individual acting on your behalf or your beneficiary Claimant in obtaining or appealing a Medical Benefit Claim. The Authorized Representative must have a signed form (specified by St. Luke's Health Plan) by the Claimant except for Emergency or Urgent Care Medical Benefits or appeals. Once an Authorized Representative is selected, all information and notifications should be directed to that representative until the Claimant states otherwise.

**Birthing Center** means any freestanding licensed health facility, place, professional office or institution, that is not a hospital or in a hospital, where births occur in a home-like atmosphere. This facility must be licensed and operated in accordance with the laws pertaining to birthing centers in the jurisdiction where the facility is located. It must:

- Have facilities for obstetrical delivery and short-term recovery after delivery
- Provide care under the full-time supervision of a physician and either a registered nurse or a licensed nurse-midwife
- Have a written agreement with a hospital in the same locality for immediate acceptance of patients who develop complications or require pre- or post-delivery confinement.

**Calendar/Plan Year** determines how a Member's Medical Benefits are calculated (on a Calendar Year or Plan Year basis) and is listed in the Enrollment material. Out-of-Pocket Maximums, Limitations, and Deductibles calculated on a Calendar Year basis start over each January 1st. Out-of-Pocket Maximums, Limitations, and Deductibles calculated on a Plan-Year basis start over each year on the renewal date of the Agreement.

**Chemical Dependency** condition means a condition characterized by a physiological or psychological abuse/dependency of a controlled substance and/or alcohol that impairs or endangers your beneficiary's health. It must be listed in the most current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), published by the American Psychiatric Association. The following conditions are either not considered Chemical Dependency Conditions or are covered under other Medical Benefits offered by the St. Luke's Health Plan (subject to all terms, limitations and exclusions):

- Conditions related to Mental Health (see Mental Health Condition definition)
- Nicotine Related Disorders (see Tobacco Cessation, if applicable to the St. Luke's Health Plan)
- Nonsubstance related disorders.

**Claim** means any request for a St. Luke's Health Plan Medical Benefit made by the Member or their authorized representative. If the Member is making a Claim for Medical Benefits, they are a Claimant.

**Coinsurance** is an amount that is calculated based upon the Allowed Amount determined for the Medical Benefit and is shown as a percentage. This percentage of the Allowed Amount is what the Member is responsible to pay for the Medical Benefit. In some cases, they may also have to pay a Copayment.

**Complications of Pregnancy** means health problems that occur during pregnancy that can involve the mother's health, the baby's health, or both, and includes ectopic pregnancy which is terminated; spontaneous termination of pregnancy which occurs during a period of gestation in which a viable birth is not possible; and conditions requiring hospital confinement (when the pregnancy is not terminated), whose diagnoses are distinct from pregnancy but are adversely affected by pregnancy or are caused by pregnancy, such as acute nephritis, nephrosis, cardiac decompensation, missed abortion and similar medical and surgical conditions of comparable severity, but not false labor, occasional spotting, physician prescribed rest during the period of pregnancy, morning sickness, hyperemesis gravidarum, preeclampsia and similar conditions associated with the management of a difficult pregnancy not constituting a nosologically distinct complication of pregnancy.

**Concurrent Claim** means any Claim that is reconsidered after an initial approval for ongoing treatment and results in a reduced or terminated Medical Benefit.

**Congenital Defect** means a condition existing at or from birth that is a significant deviation from the common form or function of the body, whether caused by a hereditary or developmental defect or disease. A significant deviation is a deviation which impairs the function of the body and includes but is not limited to the conditions of cleft lip, cleft palate, webbed fingers or toes, sixth toes or fingers, or defects of metabolism and other conditions that are medically diagnosed to be congenital anomalies.

**Copayment or Copay** means a fixed dollar amount the Member pays to the Provider to receive medically necessary care. Copayment amounts do not apply toward their Annual Deductible, but they do apply toward their Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum. If a Copayment is shown as "\$0" or "no charge" this means they do not have to pay the Provider any Copayment.

**Cost Share** means the combined total amount which the Member pays. This includes copays, coinsurance, and covered charges that count towards their deductible.

**Developmental Disabilities** is an umbrella term that can include physical, cognitive and intellectual disability that are apparent during childhood.

- Some Developmental Disabilities are largely physical, such as cerebral palsy or epilepsy.
- Some individuals may have a condition that includes a physical and intellectual disability, for example Down syndrome or fetal alcohol syndrome.
- Intellectual disability encompasses the "cognitive" part of this definition, that is, a disability that is broadly related to thought processes.
- Because intellectual and other Developmental Disabilities often co-occur, intellectual disability professionals often work with people who have both types of disabilities.

**Domestic Partnership** mean two (2) individuals, either opposite or same sex, who meet all the following criteria:

- Must be 18 or older
- Must have an intimate, committed relationship of mutual caring that has existed for at least 12 months
- Must be financially interdependent and share the same residence
- Neither partner can be married or Legally Separated from any other person or involved in another Domestic Partner relationship
- Partners must not be blood relatives of a degree of closeness that would prohibit marriage
- The partners must complete during the enrollment process the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership (and be responsible for keeping a copy of the original and providing copies when requested by St. Luke's Health Plan).

**Emergency Department (ED)** is an emergency department of a hospital, or an Independent, Freestanding Emergency Department (or a hospital, with respect to services that are included in Emergency Services).

**Emergency Medical Condition** means a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:

1. Jeopardy to the health of the individual (or with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child);
2. Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
3. Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Emergency Services** means, with respect to an Emergency Medical Condition, a medical screening examination (as required under section 1867 of the Social Security Act) that is within the capability of the Emergency Department of a hospital or an Independent, Freestanding Emergency Department, including pre-stabilization services, post-stabilization services, and Ancillary Services to evaluate such an Emergency Medical Condition, and within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the hospital, to treat such an Emergency Medical Condition.

*Pre-stabilization services provided after the patient is moved out of the Emergency Department (ED) and admitted to a hospital, post-stabilization services and Emergency Services provided at an Independent, Freestanding Emergency Department. Emergency Service are subject to the protections of the No Surprises Act.*

*Post-Stabilization services are also subject to the protections of the No Surprises Act, unless the patient is able to travel to an In-Network facility using non-medical transportation but elects to stay at the out-of-network facility.*

**Essential Health Benefits** shall mean, under section 1302(b) of the Affordable Care Act, those health benefits to include at least the following general categories and the items and services covered within the categories: ambulatory patient services; Emergency Services; Hospitalization; Maternity and Newborn Care; Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorder Services, including Behavioral Health treatment; Prescription Medications; Rehabilitative and Habilitative Services

and devices; Laboratory Services; Preventive and Wellness Services and Chronic Disease Management; and Pediatric Services, including Oral and Vision Care.

The determination of which Medical Benefits provided under St. Luke's Health Plan are Essential Health Benefits shall be made in accordance with the benchmark plan of the State of Idaho as permitted by the Departments of Labor, Treasury, and Health and Human Services.

**Family Member** means a person who is a spouse, former spouse, child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, niece, nephew, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother, sister, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law, including adoptive relationships.

**Fiduciary** means a person who exercises discretionary authority or control over the management of a plan or its assets or has discretionary authority or responsibility in Plan administration.

**First Responder User Fee** is a charge to patients who were treated or evaluated by a First Responder Unit of a municipality or other government agency that responded to a 9-1-1 call for medical services.

**In-Network Service Area** is a geographical area in which healthcare services covered by this Agreement are performed by In-Network Providers.

**In-Network Provider** means a provider who is contracted with the St. Luke's Health Partners network.

**Wrap Network Provider** means a provider who is contracted with the First Choice Health network or the First Health network.

**In-Network Care** is health care covered by this Agreement and provided by an In-Network Provider.

**Independent, Freestanding Emergency Department** is any health care facility that is geographically separate and distinct from a hospital, and that is licensed by a state to provide Emergency Services, even if the facility is not licensed under the term, "Independent, Freestanding Emergency Department."

**Legal Separation and/or Legally Separated** shall mean an arrangement under the applicable state laws to remain married but maintain separate lives, pursuant to a valid court order.

**Levels of Care** related to Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Conditions:

- **Intensive Outpatient Programs** provide services for Mental Health or Chemical Dependency Conditions on an outpatient basis through planned, structured services available at least two hours per day and three days per week. Services include group, individual and when indicated family or multi-family group treatment. Medical monitoring, evaluation and adjunctive services are available. Treatment must follow a written plan of care.
- **Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitalization Programs** provide around-the-clock psychiatric and nursing interventions in secure, State-licensed psychiatric facilities for individuals diagnosed with a mental health disorder. These facilities operate under the supervision of a licensed and Board eligible/certified psychiatrist who evaluates the patient within 24 hours of admission. Subsequent



face-to-face visits with a psychiatrist or psychiatric ARNP occur at least once every 24 hours along with daily medication management. Treatment must follow a written plan of care and include psychosocial and substance abuse evaluations. Individual, group, and/or family therapy occurs daily. The focus of the program is stabilization of client's psychiatric symptoms through the use of assessment, medication management, evidenced-based treatment strategies, group and individual therapy, behavior management, and active family engagement/therapy.

- **Partial Hospitalization Programs** provide multi-disciplinary care for Mental Health or Chemical Dependency Condition at least 6 hours a day, 5 days a week, and schedule at least three distinct services per day. Services include individual and group therapy, medication evaluation and management, family therapy, activity therapy, occupational therapy, and education training directed at treating the Condition. Services for Mental Health Conditions must include evaluation by a psychiatrist within 48 hours and weekly thereafter. All programs must include a substance abuse evaluation. Treatment must follow a written plan of care.
- **Mental Health Residential Treatment Program** provides around-the-clock behavioral health services that do not need the high level of physical security and psychiatric and nursing interventions that are available in an acute inpatient program. Care is medically monitored with on-site nursing and medical services. The focus of the program is an improvement of client's psychiatric symptoms through the use of assessment, evidenced-based treatment strategies, group and individual therapy, behavior management, medication management and active family engagement/therapy. Treatment must follow a written plan of care. The facility must be state licensed for residential treatment. Residential settings not meeting these criteria, such as group homes, halfway houses or adult/child foster homes, are not considered to be Mental Health Residential Treatment Programs.
- **Chemical Dependency Rehabilitation/Residential Programs** provide 24-hour rehabilitation treatment 7 days a week for Substance Related Conditions. Care is medically monitored, with 24-hour medical and/or nursing availability. Services include group, individual and when indicated family or multi-family group. The facility must offer sufficient availability of medical and nursing services to manage ancillary detoxification needs. Treatment must follow a written plan of care.

**Lifetime** is a reference to Medical Benefit maximums and limitations, understood to mean while covered under the St. Luke's Health Plan. Under no circumstances does Lifetime mean during their Lifetime.

**Made Whole Doctrine** is an equitable defense to the subrogation or reimbursement rights of a subrogated Plan or other party, requiring that before subrogation and/or reimbursement will be allowed, the Covered Person must be made whole for all of its damages.

**Medical Group** means a group or association of Providers, including hospital(s), listed in the Provider directory.

**Medically Necessary** describes a medical service or supply that meets all the following criteria:

- It is required for the treatment or diagnosis of a covered medical condition
- It is the most appropriate supply or Level of Care that is essential for the diagnosis or treatment of the patient's covered medical condition



- It is known to be effective in improving health outcomes for the patient's medical condition in accordance with sufficient scientific evidence and professionally recognized standards
- It is not furnished primarily for the convenience of the patient or provider of services
- It represents the most economically efficient use of medical services and supplies that may be provided safely and effectively to the patient.

The fact that a service or supply is furnished, prescribed or recommended by a physician or other Provider does not, of itself, make it Medically Necessary. A service or supply may be Medically Necessary in part only.

**Member** means any eligible, enrolled individual on the St. Luke's Health Plan.

**Mental Health Condition** means a mental disorder listed in the most current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), published by the American Psychiatric Association. The following conditions, although considered mental health conditions under the DSM, are not included in the Mental Health Care Medical Benefit under the St. Luke's Health Plan, and are either excluded or are covered under other Medical Benefits offered by the St. Luke's Health Plan (subject to all terms, limitations and exclusions):

- Conditions related to Substance Related and Addictive Disorders (see *Plan Definitions*, Chemical Dependency)
- Relational, family, and lifestyle stressors absent a primary psychiatric diagnosis
- Sexual dysfunctions, personality disorders, paraphilic disorders.

**Newborn** is a child under 28 days of age.

**No Surprises Act** holds patients harmless from surprise medical bills and Pre-Authorization requirements. See *Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills*. This act:

- Bans balance billing for Emergency Services.
- Requires that patient cost-sharing, such as copayments, co-insurance, or a deductible, for Emergency Services and certain non-Emergency Services provided by an Out-of-Network Provider at an in-network facility cannot be higher than if such services were provided by an In-Network Provider, and any cost-sharing obligation must be based on In-Network Provider rates.
- Prohibits out-of-network charges for items or services provided by an Out-of-Network Provider at an in-network facility, unless certain notice and consent is given. Providers and facilities must provide patients with a plain-language consumer notice explaining that patient consent is required to receive care on an out-of-network basis before that provider can bill the patient more than in-network cost-sharing rates.

**Open Enrollment Period** is a defined time when the Member is allowed to enroll themselves and/or their Dependents for benefit coverage.

**Out-of-Network Provider** means a provider who is not an In-Network Provider or Wrap Network Provider. For services received from Out-of-Network Providers (not covered under *Recognized*

*No Surprises Providers*), the Member is responsible to pay the difference between St. Luke's Health Plan payment and the provider's actual charges.

**Out-of-Pocket Costs** means the expenses for medical or prescription drug care that the Member pays and that are not paid for by the Plan or other insurance coverage or, in the case of certain pharmaceutical products, by the manufacturer. Out-of-pocket costs include Deductibles, Coinsurance, and Copayments for covered services.

**Placed or Placement** is defined as physical placement in the care of the adoptive subscriber or other member, or in those circumstances in which such physical placement is prevented due to the medical needs of the child requiring placement in a medical facility, it shall mean when the adoptive subscriber or other member signs an agreement for adoption of such child and signs an agreement assuming financial responsibility for such child.

**Post-Service Claim** means any Claim for a St. Luke's Health Plan Medical Benefit that is not a Pre-Service Claim and is a request for payment or reimbursement for covered services already received.

**Pre-Authorization** is the process of obtaining coverage determination from St. Luke's Health Plan before receiving inpatient and certain outpatient services, as specified in the component plans' Medical Benefit description booklets.

St. Luke's Health Plan delivers care in its Service Areas through a network of caring, engaged providers. When the Member is able to receive their Medical Benefit from one of these In-Network Providers, except for specific services outlined in the Pre-Authorization Section, Pre-Authorizations are not required. As always, any Emergency Services or Urgent Care Services never require a Pre-Authorization. Please go to the nearest facility able to treat you!

**Pre-Service Claim** means any Claim for a St. Luke's Health Plan Medical Benefit for which St. Luke's Health Plan requires approval before medical care is obtained.

**Primary Care Provider (PCP)** includes the following provider types:

- Family Practice
- Family Practice with OB
- Internal Medicine
- General practice
- Pediatrics
- Nurse Practitioner – Family Practice
- Nurse Practitioner – Pediatrics
- Nurse Practitioner – Adult
- Nurse Practitioner – Women's Health
- Nurse Practitioner – Geriatric Medicine
- Geriatric Medicine
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Gynecology
- Physician Assistants – designated as PCP

**Provider** means any person, organization, health facility or institution licensed to deliver or furnish health care services.

**Provider Directory** is the listing of the Network providers, hospitals, and other facilities that have agreed to provide covered services to the Member or their Dependents under the St. Luke's Health Plan.

**Qualifying Payment Amount (QPA)** means consumer cost-sharing amounts for Emergency Services provided by out-of-network emergency facilities and Out-of-Network Providers, certain non-Emergency Services furnished by Out-of-Network Providers at certain in-network facilities, and out-of-network air ambulances that must be calculated based on one of the following amounts:

- An amount determined by an applicable All-Payer Model Agreement under section 1115A of the Social Security Act;
- If there is no such applicable All-Payer Model Agreement, an amount determined under a specified state law; or
- If neither of the above apply, the lesser amount of either the billed charge or the St. Luke's Health Plan's median contracted rate for such services.

**Recognized No Surprises Provider** is a Provider acting within the scope of his/her license that the No Surprises Act applies to and who: 1) St. Luke's Health Plan does not offer agreements to his/her category of Providers, or 2) agreements are offered but do not cover the particular provider at issue or no written notice and consent was provided. This includes:

- Ambulance services
- Anesthesiologist services
- Assistant surgeon services
- Emergency services
- Hospital services
- Intensivist services
- Laboratory services
- Neonatology services
- Pathology services
- Radiology services
- Services of non-contracted providers when rendering care within an in-network facility, except a primary surgeon for a non-emergent admission

If the Member receives any of the services listed above, then those Out-of-Network Providers cannot balance bill the Member, unless they are provided with written notice and give written consent to waive their protections against balance billing.

**Service Area** means the geographic areas outlined for each network as set forth in the *How to Obtain Health Services* section (Page 4).

**Special Enrollment** means, under HIPAA, special mid-year enrollment rights that health plans must offer to those who experience a mid-year loss of other coverage or when there is a mid-year birth, adoption or marriage.

**Surrogacy** means if the Member bears a child for another person, often for pay, either through artificial insemination or by carrying until birth another Member's surgically implanted fertilized egg.

**Telehealth Services** includes but is not limited to:

- **Telehealth Visit** means health care services conducted with technology that includes live audio and video communication between the Participant and a Provider in compliance with state and federal laws.
- **Scheduled Telephone Visit (STV)** means a telephonic visit initiated by patient and scheduled for a specific time with a designated provider, and not related to any previous visits within 7 days.
- **Electronic Visit (e-visit)** means a visit of non-urgent clinical information between a provider and a patient conducted over a secure encrypted web portal. E-visits must be scheduled with a designated provider and not be related to any visit within the last seven (7) days.
- **Remote Patient Monitoring** means the collection of physiologic data (for example, ECG, blood pressure, glucose monitoring) digitally stored and/or transmitted by the patient or caregiver or both to the Provider.
- **Videoconference Consultation** means the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications.

**Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) Disorders** mean disorders that have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Pain in the musculature associated with the temporomandibular joint
- Internal derangement of the temporomandibular joint
- Arthritic problems with the temporomandibular joint
- An abnormal range of motion or limited motion of the temporomandibular joint.

**Third Party Administrator** means FirstChoice Health Network, Inc. which is the entity that will provide certain Member Services, Claims Payment and Member Services functions on behalf of the St. Luke's Health Plan. There may be certain times when the Member speaks with, or interact with a First Choice Health Network individual, but they will be acting on behalf of the St. Luke's Health Plan.

**Urgent Care** means services that are Medically Necessary and immediately required as a result of an unforeseen illness, injury or condition that is not an emergency, but it was not reasonable given the circumstances to wait for a routine appointment.

**Urgent Care Claim** means a Claim for medical care or treatment that, if normal pre-service standards are applied:

- Would seriously jeopardize the Claimant's life, health or ability to regain maximum function
- In the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the Claimant's medical condition, would subject the Claimant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment requested.

**Usual, Customary and Reasonable (UCR)** is the maximum amount that St. Luke's Health Plan will consider for a covered health care service received from an Out-of-Network Provider

(outside of the Recognized No Surprises Providers), that is consistent with and based upon what providers in a given particular geographic area charge for a same or similar medical procedure.

St. Luke's Health Plan's UCR calculation is based upon the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of the market rate for identical and similar services within a particular geographic area that has been obtained from a commercially reasonable, independent third-party source, which is updated semi-annually. If the third-party source does not have enough data to establish a UCR amount for a given medical procedure, the UCR will be calculated as a multiple of Medicare, specifically 200% of the amount Medicare would allow for the service. If there is no value from the third-party source, and there is no Medicare allowed amount, and the service is deemed payable, St. Luke's Health Plan will allow 50% of billed charges. Coinsurance, copayments, deductible, or non-covered services are applied against UCR amount as patient responsibility. The provider can balance bill the Member the difference between St. Luke's Health Plan payment and provider's actual charges.