***Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act***

The Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 requires group health plans to make certain benefits available to participants who have undergone a mastectomy. In particular, a plan must offer mastectomy patients benefits for:

* All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed
* Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance
* Prostheses
* Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema

Our plan complies with these requirements. Benefits for these items generally are comparable to those provided under our plan for similar types of medical services and supplies. Of course, the extent to which any of these items is appropriate following mastectomy is a matter to be determined by the patient and her physician.

***Newborns’ Act Disclosure***

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a 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 her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under Federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours). Plans subject to State law requirements will need to prepare SPD statements describing any applicable State law.

***Mental Health Parity Act***

Per the Mental Health Parity Act, benefits for mental health and substance-use disorder must be treated like benefits for regular medical and surgical care. For example, if there is no limitation on the number of days for inpatient and number of visits for outpatient medical care, then there can be no limitation for mental health and substance-use disorder treatments. As always, treatments must be medically necessary to qualify for coverage. Plan participants should review their plan’s certificate of coverage or benefit document for specific information about coverage, limitations and exclusions for mental health care and substance-use disorder treatments.