Rider

Prescription Drug Coverage

Please refer to the Schedule of Benefits section of this Certificate for Cost-Sharing requirements, day or visit limits, and any Preauthorization or Referral requirements that apply to these benefits.

A. Covered Prescription Drugs.
We Cover Medically Necessary Prescription Drugs that, except as specifically provided otherwise, can be dispensed only pursuant to a prescription and are:

- Required by law to bear the legend “Caution – Federal Law prohibits dispensing without a prescription”;
- FDA approved;
- Ordered by a Provider authorized to prescribe and within the Provider’s scope of practice;
- Prescribed within the approved FDA administration and dosing guidelines; and
- Dispensed by a licensed pharmacy.

Covered Prescription Drugs include, but are not limited to:

- Self-injectable/administered Prescription Drugs.
- Inhalers (with spacers).
- Topical dental preparations.
- Pre-natal vitamins, vitamins with fluoride, and single entity vitamins.
- Osteoporosis drugs and devices approved by the FDA, or generic equivalents as approved substitutes, for the treatment of osteoporosis and consistent with the criteria of the federal Medicare program or the National Institutes of Health.
- Nutritional formulas for the treatment of phenylketonuria, branched-chain ketonuria, galactosemia and homocystinuria.
- Non-prescription enteral formulas for home use, whether administered orally or via tube feeding, for which a Physician or other licensed Provider has issued a written order. The written order must state that the enteral formula is Medically Necessary and has been proven effective as a disease-specific treatment regimen for patients whose condition would cause them to become malnourished or suffer from disorders resulting in chronic disability, mental retardation, or death, if left untreated, including but not limited to: inherited diseases of amino acid or organic acid metabolism; Crohn’s disease; gastroesophageal reflux with failure to thrive; gastroesophageal motility such as chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction; and multiple severe food allergies.
- Modified solid food products that are low in protein or which contain modified protein to treat certain inherited diseases of amino acid and organic acid metabolism.
- Prescription Drugs prescribed in conjunction with treatment or services Covered under the infertility treatment benefit in the Outpatient and Professional Services section of this Certificate.
Off-label cancer drugs, so long as the Prescription Drug is recognized for the
treatment of the specific type of cancer for which it has been prescribed in one
(1) of the following reference compendia: the American Hospital Formulary
Service-Drug Information; National Comprehensive Cancer Networks Drugs and
Biologics Compendium; Thomson Micromedex DrugDex; Elsevier Gold
Standard’s Clinical Pharmacology; or other authoritative compendia as identified
by the Federal Secretary of Health and Human Services or the Centers for
Medicare and Medicaid Services; or recommended by review article or editorial
comment in a major peer reviewed professional journal.

- Orally administered anticancer medication used to kill or slow the growth of
cancerous cells.
- Smoking cessation drugs, including over-the-counter drugs for which there is a
written order and Prescription Drugs prescribed by a Provider.
- Contraceptive drugs or devices or generic equivalents approved as substitutes
by the FDA.

You may request a copy of Our Formulary. Our Formulary is also available on Our
website at www.metroplus.org. You may inquire if a specific drug is Covered under this
Certificate by contacting Us at the number on Your ID card.

B. Refills.
We Cover Refills of Prescription Drugs only when dispensed at a retail, mail order or
designated pharmacy as ordered by an authorized Provider and only after ¾ of the
original Prescription Drug has been used. Benefits for Refills will not be provided
beyond one (1) year from the original prescription date. For prescription eye drop
medication, We allow for the limited refilling of the prescription prior to the last day of the
approved dosage period without regard to any coverage restrictions on early Refill of
renewals. To the extent practicable, the quantity of eye drops in the early Refill will be
limited to the amount remaining on the dosage that was initially dispensed. Your Cost-
Sharing for the limited Refill is the amount that applies to each prescription or Refill as
set forth in the Schedule of Benefits section of this Certificate.

C. Benefit and Payment Information.

1. Cost-Sharing Expenses. You are responsible for paying the costs outlined in
the Schedule of Benefits section of this Certificate when Covered Prescription
Drugs are obtained from a retail, mail order or designated pharmacy.

You have a three (3) tier plan design, which means that Your out-of-pocket
expenses will generally be lowest for Prescription Drugs on tier 1 and highest for
Prescription Drugs on tier 3. Your out-of-pocket expense for Prescription Drugs
on tier 2 will generally be more than for tier 1 but less than tier 3.

An additional charge may apply when a Prescription Drug on a higher tier is
dispensed at Your or Your Provider’s request, when a chemically equivalent
Prescription Drug is available on a lower tier unless We approve coverage at the
higher tier. You will have to pay the difference between the cost of the
Prescription Drug on the higher tier and the cost of the Prescription Drug on the lower tier. The cost difference must be paid in addition to the lower tier Copayment or Coinsurance.

You are responsible for paying the full cost (the amount the pharmacy charges You) for any non-Covered Prescription Drug, and Our contracted rates (Our Prescription Drug Cost) will not be available to You.

2. **Participating Pharmacies.** For Prescription Drugs purchased at a retail, mail order or designated Participating Pharmacy, You are responsible for paying the lower of:
   - The applicable Cost-Sharing; or
   - The Participating Pharmacy’s Usual and Customary Charge (which includes a dispensing fee and sales tax) for the Prescription Drug.
   (Your Cost-Sharing will never exceed the Usual and Customary Charge of the Prescription Drug.)

In the event that Our Participating Pharmacies are unable to provide the Covered Prescription Drug, and cannot order the Prescription Drug within a reasonable time, You may, with Our prior written approval, go to a Non-Participating Pharmacy that is able to provide the Prescription Drug. We will pay You the Prescription Drug Cost for such approved Prescription Drug less Your required in-network Cost-Sharing upon receipt of a complete Prescription Drug claim form. Contact Us at the number on Your ID card or visit Our website at www.metroplus.org to request approval.

3. **Non-Participating Pharmacies.** We will not pay for any Prescription Drugs that You purchase at a Non-Participating retail or mail order Pharmacy other than as described above.

4. **Designated Pharmacies.** If You require certain Prescription Drugs including, but not limited to specialty Prescription Drugs, We may direct You to a Designated Pharmacy with whom We have an arrangement to provide those Prescription Drugs.

   Generally, specialty Prescription Drugs are Prescription Drugs that are approved to treat limited patient populations or conditions; are normally injected, infused or require close monitoring by a Provider; or have limited availability, special dispensing and delivery requirements and/or require additional patient supports.

   If You are directed to a Designated Pharmacy and You choose not to obtain Your Prescription Drug from a Designated Pharmacy, You will not have Coverage for that Prescription Drug.

   Following are the therapeutic classes of Prescription Drugs or conditions that are included in this program:
• Age related macular edema;
• Anemia, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia;
• Contraceptives;
• Crohn’s disease;
• Cystic fibrosis;
• Cytomegalovirus;
• Endocrine disorders/neurologic disorders such as infantile spasms;
• Enzyme deficiencies/liposomal storage disorders;
• Gaucher’s disease;
• Growth hormone;
• Hemophilia;
• Hepatitis B, hepatitis C;
• Hereditary angioedema;
• HIV/AIDS;
• Immune deficiency;
• Immune modulator;
• Infertility;
• Iron overload;
• Iron toxicity;
• Multiple sclerosis;
• Oral oncology;
• Osteoarthritis;
• Osteoporosis;
• Parkinson’s disease;
• Pulmonary arterial hypertension;
• Respiratory condition;
• Rheumatologic and related conditions (rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis)
• Transplant;
• RSV prevention.

5. **Mail Order.** Certain Prescription Drugs may be ordered through Our mail order pharmacy. You are responsible for paying the lower of:
   • The applicable Cost-Sharing; or
   • The Prescription Drug Cost for that Prescription Drug.
   (Your Cost-Sharing will never exceed the Usual and Customary Charge of the Prescription Drug.)

To maximize Your benefit, ask Your Provider to write Your Prescription Order or Refill for a 90-day supply, with Refills when appropriate (not a 30-day supply with three (3) Refills). You may be charged the mail order Cost-Sharing for any Prescription Orders or Refills sent to the mail order pharmacy regardless of the number of days supply written on the Prescription Order or Refill.
Prescription Drugs purchased through mail order will be delivered directly to Your home or office.

We will provide benefits that apply to drugs dispensed by a mail order pharmacy to drugs that are purchased from a retail pharmacy when that retail pharmacy has a participation agreement with Us and Our vendor in which it agrees to be bound by the same terms and conditions as a participating mail order pharmacy.

You or Your Provider may obtain a copy of the list of Prescription Drugs available through mail order by visiting Our website at www.metroplus.org or by calling the number on Your ID card.

6. **Tier Status.** The tier status of a Prescription Drug may change periodically. Changes will generally be quarterly, but no more than six (6) times per calendar year, based on Our periodic tiering decisions. These changes may occur without prior notice to You. However, if You have a prescription for a drug that is being moved to a higher tier (other than a Brand-Name Drug that becomes available as a Generic Drug as described below) We will notify You. When such changes occur, Your out-of-pocket expense may change. You may access the most up to date tier status on Our website at www.metroplus.org or by calling the number on Your ID card.

7. **When a Brand-Name Drug Becomes Available as a Generic Drug.** When a Brand-Name Drug becomes available as a Generic Drug, the tier placement of the Brand-Name Prescription Drug may change. If this happens, You no longer have benefits for that particular Brand-Name Drug. Please note, if You are taking a Brand-Name Drug that is being excluded due to a Generic Drug becoming available, You will receive advance written notice of the Brand-Name Drug exclusion. If coverage is denied, You are entitled to an Appeal as outlined in the Utilization Review and External Appeal sections of this Certificate.

8. **Formulary Exception Process.** If a Prescription Drug is not on Our Formulary, You, Your designee or Your prescribing Health Care Professional may request a Formulary exception for a clinically-appropriate Prescription Drug in writing, electronically or telephonically. The request should include a statement from Your prescribing Health Care Professional that all Formulary drugs will be or have been ineffective, would not be as effective as the non-Formulary drug, or would have adverse effects. If coverage is denied under Our standard or expedited Formulary exception process, You are entitled to an external appeal as outlined in the External Appeal section of this Certificate. Visit Our website at www.metroplus.org or call the number on Your ID card to find out more about this process.

**Standard Review of a Formulary Exception.** We will make a decision and notify You or Your designee and the prescribing Health Care Professional no
later than 72 hours after Our receipt of Your request. If We approve the request, We will Cover the Prescription Drug while You are taking the Prescription Drug, including any refills.

**Expeditied Review of a Formulary Exception.** If You are suffering from a health condition that may seriously jeopardize Your health, life or ability to regain maximum function or if You are undergoing a current course of treatment using a non-Formulary Prescription Drug, You may request an expedited review of a Formulary exception. The request should include a statement from Your prescribing Health Care Professional that harm could reasonably come to You if the requested drug is not provided within the timeframes for Our standard Formulary exception process. We will make a decision and notify You or Your designee and the prescribing Health Care Professional no later than 24 hours after Our receipt of Your request. If We approve the request, We will Cover the Prescription Drug while You suffer from the health condition that may seriously jeopardize Your health, life or ability to regain maximum function or for the duration of Your current course of treatment using the non-Formulary Prescription Drug.

9. **Supply Limits.** We will pay for no more than a 30-day supply of a Prescription Drug purchased at a retail pharmacy. You are responsible for up to three (3) Cost-Sharing amounts for up to a 90-day supply. However, for Maintenance Drugs We will pay for up to a 90-day supply of a drug purchased at a retail pharmacy. You are responsible for up to three (3) Cost-Sharing amounts for a 90-day supply at a retail pharmacy.

Benefits will be provided for Prescription Drugs dispensed by a mail order pharmacy in a quantity of up to a 90-day supply. You are responsible for one (1) Cost-Sharing amount for a 30-day supply up to a maximum of two (2) Cost-Sharing amounts for a 90-day supply.

Some Prescription Drugs may be subject to quantity limits based on criteria that We have developed, subject to Our periodic review and modification. The limit may restrict the amount dispensed per Prescription Order or Refill and/or the amount dispensed per month’s supply. You can determine whether a Prescription Drug has been assigned a maximum quantity level for dispensing by accessing Our website at www.metroplus.org or by calling the number on Your ID card. If We deny a request to Cover an amount that exceeds Our quantity level, You are entitled to an Appeal pursuant to the Utilization Review and External Appeal sections of this Certificate.

10. **Emergency Supply of Prescription Drugs for Substance Use Disorder Treatment.** If You have an Emergency Condition, You may immediately access, without Preauthorization, a five (5) day emergency supply of a Prescription Drug for the treatment of a substance use disorder, including a Prescription Drug to manage opioid withdrawal and/or stabilization and for opioid overdose reversal.
If You have a Copayment, it will be prorated. If You receive an additional supply of the Prescription Drug within the 30-day period in which You received the emergency supply, Your Copayment for the remainder of the 30-day supply will also be prorated. In no event will the prorated Copayment(s) total more than Your Copayment for a 30-day supply.

In this paragraph, “Emergency Condition” means a substance use disorder condition that manifests itself by Acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain or the expectation of severe pain, such that a prudent layperson, possessing an average knowledge of medicine and health, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:

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

11. **Initial Limited Supply of Prescription Opioid Drugs.** If You receive an initial limited prescription for a seven (7) day supply or less of any schedule II, III, or IV opioid prescribed for Acute pain, and You have a Copayment, Your Copayment will be prorated. If You receive an additional supply of the Prescription Drug within the 30-day period in which You received the seven (7) day supply, Your Copayment for the remainder of the 30-day supply will also be prorated. In no event will the prorated Copayment(s) total more than Your Copayment for a 30-day supply.

12. **Cost-Sharing for Orally-Administered Anti-Cancer Drugs.** Your Cost-Sharing for orally-administered anti-cancer drugs is at least as favorable to You as the Cost-Sharing amount, if any, that applies to intravenous or injected anticancer medications Covered under the Outpatient and Professional Services section of this Certificate.

D. **Medical Management.**
This Certificate includes certain features to determine when Prescription Drugs should be Covered, which are described below. As part of these features, Your prescribing Provider may be asked to give more details before We can decide if the Prescription Drug is Medically Necessary.
1. **Preauthorization.** Preauthorization may be needed for certain Prescription Drugs to make sure proper use and guidelines for Prescription Drug coverage are followed. When appropriate, Your Provider will be responsible for obtaining Preauthorization for the Prescription Drug.

For a list of Prescription Drugs that need Preauthorization, please visit Our website at www.metroplus.org or call the number on Your ID card. The list will be reviewed and updated from time to time. We also reserve the right to require Preauthorization for any new Prescription Drug on the market or for any currently available Prescription Drug which undergoes a change in prescribing protocols and/or indications regardless of the therapeutic classification, including if a Prescription Drug or related item on the list is not Covered under Your Certificate. Your Provider may check with Us to find out which Prescription Drugs are Covered.

2. **Step Therapy.** Step therapy is a process in which You may need to use one (1) type of Prescription Drug before We will Cover another as Medically Necessary. We check certain Prescription Drugs to make sure that proper prescribing guidelines are followed. These guidelines help You get high quality and cost-effective Prescription Drugs. The Prescription Drugs that require Preauthorization under the step therapy program are also included on the Preauthorization drug list. If coverage is denied, You are entitled to an Appeal as outlined in the Utilization Review and External Appeal sections of this Certificate.

3. **Therapeutic Substitution.** Therapeutic substitution is an optional program that tells You and Your Providers about alternatives to certain prescribed drugs. We may contact You and Your Provider to make You aware of these choices. Only You and Your Provider can determine if the therapeutic substitute is right for You. We have a therapeutic drug substitutes list, which We review and update from time to time. For questions or issues about therapeutic drug substitutes, visit Our website at www.metroplus.org or call the number on Your ID card.

E. **Limitations/Terms of Coverage.**
1. We reserve the right to limit quantities, day supply, early Refill access and/or duration of therapy for certain medications based on Medical Necessity including acceptable medical standards and/or FDA recommended guidelines.

2. If We determine that You may be using a Prescription Drug in a harmful or abusive manner, or with harmful frequency, Your selection of Participating Pharmacies may be limited. If this happens, We may require You to select a single Participating Pharmacy that will provide and coordinate all future pharmacy services. Benefits will be paid only if You use the selected single Participating Pharmacy. If You do not make a selection within 31 days of the date We notify You, We will select a single Participating Pharmacy for You.
3. Compounded Prescription Drugs will be Covered only when the primary ingredient is a Covered legend Prescription Drug, they are not essentially the same as a Prescription Drug from a manufacturer and are obtained from a pharmacy that is approved for compounding. All compounded Prescription Drugs over $250 require Your Provider to obtain Preauthorization. Compounded Prescription Drugs are on tier 3.

4. Various specific and/or generalized “use management” protocols will be used from time to time in order to ensure appropriate utilization of medications. Such protocols will be consistent with standard medical/drug treatment guidelines. The primary goal of the protocols is to provide Our Members with a quality-focused Prescription Drug benefit. In the event a use management protocol is implemented, and You are taking the drug(s) affected by the protocol, You will be notified in advance.

5. Injectable drugs (other than self-administered injectable drugs) and diabetic insulin, oral hypoglycemics, and diabetic supplies and equipment are not Covered under this section but are Covered under other sections of this Certificate.

6. We do not Cover charges for the administration or injection of any Prescription Drug. Prescription Drugs given or administered in a Physician’s office are Covered under the Outpatient and Professional Services section of this Certificate.

7. We do not Cover drugs that do not by law require a prescription, except for smoking cessation drugs, over-the-counter preventive drugs or devices provided in accordance with the comprehensive guidelines supported by HRSA or with an “A” or “B” rating from USPSTF, or as otherwise provided in this Certificate. We do not Cover Prescription Drugs that have over-the-counter non-prescription equivalents, except if specifically designated as Covered in the drug Formulary. Non-prescription equivalents are drugs available without a prescription that have the same name/chemical entity as their prescription counterparts.

8. We do not Cover Prescription Drugs to replace those that may have been lost or stolen.

9. We do not Cover Prescription Drugs dispensed to You while in a Hospital, nursing home, other institution, Facility, or if You are a home care patient, except in those cases where the basis of payment by or on behalf of You to the Hospital, nursing home, Home Health Agency or home care services agency, or other institution, does not include services for drugs.

10. We reserve the right to deny benefits as not Medically Necessary or experimental or investigational for any drug prescribed or dispensed in a manner contrary to standard medical practice. If coverage is denied, You are entitled to an Appeal
as described in the Utilization Review and External Appeal sections of this Certificate.

11. A pharmacy need not dispense a Prescription Order that, in the pharmacist’s professional judgment, should not be filled.

F. General Conditions.
   1. You must show Your ID card to a retail pharmacy at the time You obtain Your Prescription Drug or You must provide the pharmacy with identifying information that can be verified by Us during regular business hours. You must include Your identification number on the forms provided by the mail order pharmacy from which You make a purchase.

G. Definitions.
   Terms used in this section are defined as follows. (Other defined terms can be found in the Definitions section of this Certificate).
   1. Brand-Name Drug: A Prescription Drug that: 1) is manufactured and marketed under a trademark or name by a specific drug manufacturer; or 2) We identify as a Brand-Name Prescription Drug, based on available data resources. All Prescription Drugs identified as “brand name” by the manufacturer, pharmacy, or Your Physician may not be classified as a Brand-Name Drug by Us.
   2. Designated Pharmacy: A pharmacy that has entered into an agreement with Us or with an organization contracting on Our behalf, to provide specific Prescription Drugs, including but not limited to, specialty Prescription Drugs. The fact that a pharmacy is a Participating Pharmacy does not mean that it is a Designated Pharmacy.
   3. Formulary: The list that identifies those Prescription Drugs for which coverage may be available under this Certificate. This list is subject to Our periodic review and modification (generally quarterly, but no more than six (6) times per Plan Year). You may determine to which tier a particular Prescription Drug has been assigned by visiting Our website at www.metroplus.org or by calling the number on Your ID card.
   4. Generic Drug: A Prescription Drug that: 1) is chemically equivalent to a Brand-Name Drug; or 2) We identify as a Generic Prescription Drug based on available data resources. All Prescription Drugs identified as “generic” by the manufacturer, pharmacy or Your Physician may not be classified as a Generic Drug by Us.
   5. Maintenance Drug: A Prescription Drug used to treat a condition that is considered chronic or long-term and which usually requires daily use of Prescription Drugs.
6. **Non-Participating Pharmacy:** A pharmacy that has not entered into an agreement with Us to provide Prescription Drugs to Members. We will not make any payment for prescriptions or Refills filled at a Non-Participating Pharmacy other than as described above.

7. **Participating Pharmacy:** A pharmacy that has:
   - Entered into an agreement with Us or Our designee to provide Prescription Drugs to Members;
   - Agreed to accept specified reimbursement rates for dispensing Prescription Drugs; and
   - Been designated by Us as a Participating Pharmacy.
   
   A Participating Pharmacy can be either a retail or mail-order pharmacy.

8. **Prescription Drug:** A medication, product or device that has been approved by the FDA and that can, under federal or state law, be dispensed only pursuant to a Prescription Order or Refill and is on Our Formulary. A Prescription Drug includes a medication that, due to its characteristics, is appropriate for self administration or administration by a non-skilled caregiver.

9. **Prescription Drug Cost:** The rate We have agreed to pay Our Participating Pharmacies, including a dispensing fee and any sales tax, for a Covered Prescription Drug dispensed at a Participating Pharmacy. If Your Certificate includes coverage at Non-Participating Pharmacies, the Prescription Drug Cost for a Prescription Drug dispensed at a Non-Participating Pharmacy is calculated using the Prescription Drug Cost that applies for that particular Prescription Drug at most Participating Pharmacies.

10. **Prescription Order or Refill:** The directive to dispense a Prescription Drug issued by a duly licensed Health Care Professional who is acting within the scope of his or her practice.

11. **Usual and Customary Charge:** The usual fee that a pharmacy charges individuals for a Prescription Drug without reference to reimbursement to the pharmacy by third parties as required by Section 6826-a of the New York Education Law.