Medi-Cal
Member Handbook

What you need to know about your benefits

Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP)
Combined Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Disclosure Form

2023
Contra Costa County
4. Benefits and services

Other CCHP covered benefits and programs

Street medicine programs
Members experiencing homelessness may receive covered services from Street Medicine Providers within CCHP’s provider network. A Street Medicine Provider is a licensed primary care physician or primary care non-physician in the CCHP.
3. How to get care

Referrals

Your PCP or another specialist will provide you a referral to visit a specialist within the time frame listed in the “Timely access to care” section of this handbook, if you need one. A specialist is a doctor who has extra education in one area of medicine. Your PCP will work with you to choose a specialist. Your PCP’s office can help you set up a time to go to the specialist.

Other services that might need a referral include in-office procedures, X-rays, lab work and other services with doctors or providers who are in CCHP’s network.

Your PCP may give you a form to take to the specialist. The specialist will fill out the form and send it back to your PCP. The specialist will treat you for as long as they think you need treatment.

If you have a health problem that needs special medical care for a long time, you may need a standing referral. This means you can go to the same specialist more than once without getting a referral each time.

If you have trouble getting a standing referral or want a copy of the CCHP referral policy, call 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711).

You do not need a referral for:

- PCP visits
- Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) visits
- Urgent or emergency care visits
- Adult sensitive services, such as sexual assault care
- Family planning services (to learn more, call Office of Family Planning Information and Referral Service at 1-800-942-1054)
- HIV testing and counseling (12 years or older)
- Sexually transmitted infection services (12 years or older)
- Chiropractic services (a referral may be required when provided by out-of-network FQHCs, RHCs and IHCPs)
- Initial mental health assessment
- Preventive Services including influenza vaccination

Minors can also get certain outpatient mental health services, sensitive services and substance use disorder services without parent’s consent. For more information read “Minor consent services” and “Substance use disorder treatment services” in this handbook.
California Cancer Equity Act Referrals

Effective treatment of complex cancers depends on many factors including getting the right diagnosis and getting timely treatment from cancer experts.

If you are diagnosed with a complex cancer, the new California Cancer Care Equity Act allows you to ask for a referral from your doctor to get cancer treatment specifically from an in-network National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated cancer center, NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP)-affiliated site, or qualifying academic cancer center.

If CCHP does not have an in-network NCI-designated cancer center, CCHP will allow you to ask for a referral to get cancer treatment from one of these out-of-network centers in California, if one of the out-of-network centers and CCHP agree on payment, unless you choose to see a different cancer treatment provider.

If you have been diagnosed with cancer, contact CCHP to see if you qualify for services from one of these cancer centers.

4. Benefits and services

Medi-Cal benefits covered by CCHP

Outpatient (ambulatory) services

Cognitive health assessments

CCHP covers an annual brief cognitive health assessment for members who are 65 years of age or older, and are otherwise not eligible for a similar assessment as part of an annual wellness visit under the Medicare Program. A cognitive health assessment looks for signs of Alzheimer’s disease or dementia.
Other languages and formats

Other languages

You can get this Member Handbook and other plan materials in other languages at no cost to you. We provide written translations from qualified translators. Call Member Services, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). The call is toll free. Read this Member Handbook to learn more about health care language assistance services, such as interpreter and translation services.

Other formats

You can get this information in other formats, such as braille, 20-point font large print, audio, and accessible electronic formats at no cost to you. Call Member Services, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). The call is toll free.

Interpreter services

CCHP provides oral interpretation services from a
qualified interpreter, on a 24-hour basis, at no cost to you. You do not have to use a family member or friend as an interpreter. We discourage the use of minors as interpreters, unless it is an emergency. Interpreter, linguistic and cultural services are available at no cost to you. Help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For language help or to get this handbook in a different language, call Member Services, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). The call is toll free.

English
ATTENTION: If you need help in your language call 1-877-661-6230 (TTY: 711). Aids and services for people with disabilities, like documents in braille and large print, are also available. Call 1-877-661-6230 (TTY: 711). These services are free of charge.

(Arabic) الشعار بالعربية
يُرجى الانتباه: إذا احتجت إلى المساعدة بلغتك، فاتصل بـ (TTY: 711) 300-661-6230-877-1-1. تتوفر أيضا المساعدات والخدمات للأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة، مثل المستندات المكتوبة بطريقة بريل والخط الكبير. انصل بـ 300-661-6230-877-1-1. هذه الخدمات مجانية.

 Armenian

 Khmer
បានប្រែបាន់ េបើអកុរតារវប្រុស ប្រុស ប្រុស ចែក សំរាប់ គុណភាពអក្សរពុម្ព ស្រប់ជនពិរែភក ដូចរសាល់អក្សរផុស ស្រប់ជនពិរែភក ឬឯករសាល់អក្សរពុម្ពក៏ចរកនផងឬដរ។ ទូរស័ពមកេលខ 1-877-661-6230 (TTY: 711). នេះសំរាប់មិនគិតៃថេឡើយ។

 Chinese
请注意：如果您需要以您的母语提供帮助，请致电 1-877-661-6230 (TTY: 711)。另外还提供针对残疾人士的帮助和服务，例如盲文和需要较大字体阅读，也是方便取用的。请致电 1-877-661-6230 (TTY: 711)。这些服务都是免费的。
Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.
Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.
Welcome to CCHP!

Thank you for joining CCHP. CCHP is a health plan for people who have Medi-Cal. CCHP works with the State of California to help you get the health care you need.

You can best use our services at CCHP when you know how to use our Health Plan.

- If you are a Kaiser Permanente member, please see your Kaiser Permanente Evidence of Coverage. You may still keep this CCHP booklet handy in case you decide to switch your network back to CCHP’s Regional Medical Center Network or Community Provider Network.

- CCHP is a federally qualified “Health Maintenance Organization” (HMO). CCHP has been caring for Contra Costa County residents since 1973.

- CCHP contracts with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to give certain health care services to Medi-Cal members who choose CCHP.

- Getting health care from a health care service plan may be new to you, so please read this booklet carefully and get to know all the terms and conditions of your health coverage.

Facilities, Doctor Visits and Outpatient Services

When you join CCHP’s Medi-Cal program, you can choose your Primary Care Physician (PCP) from:

- **Regional Medical Center Network (RMCN)** - county’s Health Centers, doctors and other providers who practice at those centers,

- **Community Provider Network (CPN)** - doctors and other providers from private practices in the community, or

- **Kaiser Permanente** - doctors, hospitals and other providers who are part of Kaiser Permanente. You must have been a recent Kaiser member or meet other criteria to qualify. Please refer to the Kaiser Assignment Criteria document located at cchealth.org/CCHP materials or contact Member Services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) for more information.
Welcome to CCHP!

- If you pick a PCP in the RMCN, your primary care will be at one of our county Health Centers in Antioch, Bay Point, Brentwood, Concord, Martinez, Pittsburg, North Richmond and San Pablo. Other professional services or doctor visits, and services outside a hospital may be given by providers in the RMCN or CPN. Your hospital care will be at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center (CCRMC) in Martinez. CCRMC is open every day and can give you full services including:
  - Obstetrics,
  - Emergency room care,
  - Intensive care,
  - Specialty programs in geriatrics and more.

- If you pick a PCP in the CPN, your primary care will be in community clinics or the private office of a community provider. Your hospital care will be given either at the CCRMC or at a community hospital that has an agreement with CCHP. Other professional services or doctor visits, and services outside a hospital may be given by providers in the CPN or RMCN. If you get services from a community hospital with an agreement with CCHP, your PCP (or Specialty Care Physician to whom you have been referred) must admit you to the community hospital and have privileges there.

- If you pick a PCP from Kaiser Permanente, your benefits including doctor visits, hospital services, and other services are given at Kaiser Permanente facilities located in Antioch, Martinez, Walnut Creek and Richmond or by other providers who are selected by Kaiser and part of the Kaiser Permanente Network.

Please keep in mind that some providers may not be taking new patients at this time. If the provider you pick is not taking new patients, call Member Services for help in picking another PCP from the Provider Directory.

Member Handbook

This Member Handbook tells you about your coverage under CCHP. Please read it carefully and completely. It will help you understand and use your benefits and services. It also explains your rights and responsibilities as a member of CCHP. If you have special health needs, be sure to read all sections that apply to you.

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.
Welcome to CCHP!

This Member Handbook is also called the Combined Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and Disclosure Form. It is a summary of CCHP rules and policies and based on the contract between CCHP and Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). If you would like more information, call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Call Member Services Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) to ask for a copy of the contract between CCHP and DHCS. You may also ask for another copy of the Member Handbook at no cost to you or visit the CCHP website at cchealth.org/CCHPmaterials to view the Member Handbook. You may also request, at no cost to you, a copy of the CCHP non-proprietary clinical and administrative policies and procedures, or how to access this information on the CCHP website.

Contact us

CCHP is here to help. If you have questions, call Member Services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The call is toll free.

You can also visit online at any time at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.

Thank you,
Contra Costa Health Plan
595 Center Ave Ste 100
Martinez, CA 94553

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.
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Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.
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1. Getting started as a member

How to get help

CCHP wants you to be happy with your health care. If you have any questions or concerns about your care, CCHP wants to hear from you!

Member services

CCHP member services is here to help you. CCHP can:

- Answer questions about your health plan and CCHP covered services
- Help you choose or change a primary care provider (PCP)
- Tell you where to get the care you need
- Help you get interpreter services if you do not speak English
- Help you get information in other languages and formats
- Tell you how to access electronic or hard copies of your CCHP ID card or other member materials
- Help resolve issues you may have in accessing health services
- Help you file an appeal if you disagree with a health plan decision
- Help you file a complaint or grievance about the health plan or a provider
- Help update your contact information in our system

If you need help, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The call is toll free. CCHP must make sure that you wait less than 10 minutes when calling.

You can also visit online at any time at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org. CCHP also encourages you to sign up for a MyChart member portal account at mychart.cchealth.org. You can access MyChart through a web browser or a mobile app. The member portal gives you access to an electronic CCHP ID card, claims history, important messages from CCHP, and more.
Who can become a member

You qualify for CCHP because you qualify for Medi-Cal and live in Contra Costa County. Please call Contra Costa County Employment Human Services Development (EHSD) service center at 1-877-663-3225 for help with getting Medi-Cal. You may also qualify for Medi-Cal through Social Security because you are receiving SSI/SSP.

For questions about enrollment, call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 (TTY 1-800-430-7077 or 711). Or visit http://www.healthcareoptions.dhcs.ca.gov/. For questions about Social Security, call the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213. Or visit https://www.ssa.gov/locator/.

Transitional Medi-Cal

Transitional Medi-Cal is also called “Medi-Cal for working people.” You may be able to get Transitional Medi-Cal if you stop getting Medi-Cal because:

- You started earning more money.
- Your family started receiving more child or spousal support.

You can ask questions about qualifying for Transitional Medi-Cal at your local county health and human services office at http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/CountyOffices.aspx or call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 (TTY 1-800-430-7077 or 711).

Identification (ID) cards

As a member of CCHP, you will get a CCHP ID card. You must show your CCHP ID card and your Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC), that the State of California sent you, when you get any health care services or prescriptions. You should carry all health cards with you at all times. Here are sample BIC and CCHP ID cards to show you what yours will look like:
Getting started as a member

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.

You can also access your CCHP ID card online through MyChart. Sign up for a MyChart account at mychart.cchealth.org. You can show an electronic copy of your ID card on your mobile phone, or you can download and print a copy of your CCHP ID card any time.

If you do not get your CCHP ID card within a few weeks after your enrollment date, or if your card is damaged, lost or stolen, call member services right away. CCHP will send you a new card at no cost to you. Call Member Services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).
2. About your health plan

Health plan overview

CCHP is a health plan for people who have Medi-Cal in Contra Costa County. CCHP works with the State of California to help you get the health care you need.

You may talk with one of the CCHP member services representatives to learn more about the health plan and how to make it work for you. Call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

When your coverage starts and ends

When you enroll in CCHP, we will send you an ID card within two weeks of your enrollment date. You must show your CCHP ID card and your Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC) when you get any health care services or prescriptions.

Your Medi-Cal coverage will need to be renewed every year. If your local county office cannot renew your Medi-Cal coverage using electronic sources, the county will send you a Medi-Cal renewal form. Complete this form and return it to your local county human services agency. You can return your information online, in person, or by phone or other electronic means if available in your county.

You may ask to end your CCHP coverage and choose another health plan at any time. For help choosing a new plan, call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 (TTY 1-800-430-7077 or 711). Or visit www.healthcareoptions.dhcs.ca.gov. You can also ask to end your Medi-Cal.

CCHP is a health plan for Medi-Cal members in Contra Costa County. Find your local office at http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/CountyOffices.aspx.

CCHP eligibility may end if any of the following is true:

- You move out of Contra Costa County
- You no longer have Medi-Cal
- If you become eligible for a waiver program that requires you to be enrolled in FFS Medi-Cal.
- You are in jail or prison

If you lose your CCHP Medi-Cal coverage, you may still be eligible for Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medi-Cal coverage. If you are not sure if you are still covered by CCHP, please call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

**Special considerations for American Indians in managed care**

American Indians have a right to not enroll in a Medi-Cal managed care plan or they may leave their Medi-Cal managed care plan and return to FFS Medi-Cal at any time and for any reason.

If you are an American Indian, you have the right to get health care services at an Indian Health Care Provider (IHCP). You may also stay with or disenroll from CCHP while getting health care services from these locations. For information on enrollment and disenrollment call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

**How your plan works**

CCHP is a managed care health plan contracted with DHCS. CCHP works with doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers in the CCHP service area to give health care to you, the member. While you are a member of CCHP, you may be eligible to get some additional services provided through FFS Medi-Cal. These include outpatient prescriptions, non-prescription drugs and some medical supplies through FFS Medi-Cal Rx.

Member services will tell you how CCHP works, how to get the care you need, how to schedule provider appointments within standard access times, how to request no-cost interpreting services, and how to find out if you qualify for transportation services.

To learn more, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). You can also find member service information online at [www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org](http://www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org).
Changing health plans

You may leave CCHP and join another health plan in your county of residence at any time. Call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 (TTY 1-800-430-7077 or 711) to choose a new plan. You can call between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Or visit https://www.healthcareoptions.dhcs.ca.gov/.

It takes up to 30 days to process your request to leave CCHP and enroll in another plan in your county if there are no issues with the request. To find out the status of your request, call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 (TTY 1-800-430-7077 or 711).

If you want to leave CCHP sooner, you may ask Health Care Options for an expedited (fast) disenrollment. If the reason for your request meets the rules for expedited disenrollment, you will get a letter to tell you that you are disenrolled.

Members who can request expedited disenrollment include, but are not limited to, children receiving services under the Foster Care or Adoption Assistance programs, members with special health care needs, and members already enrolled in Medicare or another Medi-Cal or commercial managed care plan.

You may ask to leave CCHP in person at your local county health and human services office. Find your local office at http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/CountyOffices.aspx. Or call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 (TTY 1-800-430-7077 or 711). In some special cases, Member Services must help you end your membership quickly. This is called an emergency disenrollment or expedited disenrollment. It will take about three days for an expedited disenrollment to go through.

Students who move to a new county or out of California

Emergency services and urgent care are available to all Medi-Cal enrollees statewide regardless of county of residence. Routine and preventive care are covered only in your county of residence. If you move to a new county in California to attend higher education, including college, CCHP will cover emergency room and urgent care services in your new county. You can also receive routine or preventive care in your new county but must notify your MCP. See below for further details.

If you are enrolled in Medi-Cal and are a student in a county that is different from your
residence in California, you do not need to apply for Medi-Cal in that county.

If you temporarily move away from home to be a student in another county in California there are two options available to you. You may:

- Notify Contra Costa County Employment Human Services Development (EHSD) service center at 1-877-663-3225 that you are temporarily moving to attend an institution of higher education and provide your address in the new county. The county will update the case records with your new address and county code in the State’s database. Use this choice if you want to get routine or preventive care in your new county. You may have to change health plans if CCHP does not operate in the county where you will attend college. For questions and to prevent any delay in enrolling in the new health plan, call Health Care Options at 1-800-430-4263 (TTY 1-800-430-7077 or 711).

OR

- Choose not to change your health plan when you temporarily move to attend college in a different county. You will only be able to access emergency room and urgent care services in the new county for some conditions. To learn more, go to Chapter 3, “How to get care.” For routine or preventive health care, you would need to use the CCHP regular network of providers located in the head of the household’s county of residence.

If you are leaving California temporarily to be a student in another state and you want to keep your Medi-Cal coverage, contact your eligibility worker at Contra Costa County Employment Human Services Development (EHSD) service center at 1-877-663-3225. As long as you are eligible, Medi-Cal will cover emergency services and urgent care in another state. Medi-Cal will also cover emergency care that requires hospitalization in Canada and Mexico if the service is approved and the doctor and hospital meet Medi-Cal rules. Routine and preventive care services, including prescription drugs, are not covered outside of California. If you want Medicaid in another state, you will need to apply in that state. You will not be eligible for Medi-Cal and CCHP will not pay for your health care. Medi-Cal does not cover emergency, urgent or any other health care services outside of the United States, except for Canada and Mexico as noted in Chapter 3.
Continuity of care

Continuity of Care for a non-plan Provider

As a member of CCHP, you will get your health care from providers in CCHP’s network. To find out whether the health care provider is in CCHP’s network please see a copy of our provider directory. The provider directory is available on our website as an electronic pdf file or you can request a hard copy. You can also use our online provider search tool. Go to www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org or cchealth.org/FindAProvider.

In some cases, you may be able to go to providers who are not in the CCHP network if you have moved from another plan or fee-for-service (FFS) or a provider who was in network is now out-of-network. This is called continuity of care.

Call CCHP and tell us if you need to visit a provider who is out-of-network. We will tell you if you have the right to continuity of care. You may be able to use continuity of care, for up to 12 months, or more in some cases, if all of the following are true:

- You have an ongoing relationship with the non-plan provider, prior to enrollment in CCHP
- You were seen by the non-plan provider at least once during the twelve (12) months prior to your enrollment with CCHP for a non-emergency visit
- The non-plan provider is willing to work with CCHP and agrees to CCHP’s contractual requirements and payment for services
- The non-plan provider meets CCHP’s professional standards

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) for more information.

If your providers do not join the CCHP network by the end of 12 months, do not agree to CCHP payment rates or do not meet quality of care requirements, you will need to switch to providers in the CCHP network. Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) to discuss your options.

Continuity of Care for services

As a member of CCHP, you will get your Medi-Cal services from providers in CCHP’s network. In some cases, you may be able to get continued access to Medi-Cal services if you are being treated for certain health conditions and the non-plan provider is not willing to continue to provide services or does not agree to CCHP’s contractual...
requirements, payment, or other terms for providing care, then you will not be able to receive continued care from the provider. However, you may be able to keep getting services from a different provider in CCHP's network.

Services CCHP provides for continuity of care include but are not limited to:

- Acute conditions (a medical issue that needs fast attention) – for as long as the condition lasts.
- Chronic physical and behavioral conditions (a health care issue you have for a long time) – for an amount of time required to finish the course of treatment and to arrange for a safe transfer to a new doctor in the CCHP network.
- Pregnancy – during the pregnancy and for up to 12 months after the end of pregnancy.
- Maternal mental health services for up to 12 months from the diagnosis or from the end of pregnancy, whichever is later.
- Care of a newborn child between birth and age 36 months for up to 12 months from the start date of the coverage or the date the provider’s contract ends with CCHP.
- Terminal illness (a life-threatening medical issue) – for as long as the illness lasts. Completion of covered services may exceed twelve (12) months from the time the provider stops working with CCHP.
- Performance of a surgery or other medical procedure from a non-plan provider as long as it is covered, medically necessary and is authorized by CCHP as part of a documented course of treatment and has been recommended and documented by the provider – surgery or other medical procedure to take place within 180 days of the provider’s contract termination date or 180 days from the effective date of coverage of a new member.

For other conditions that may qualify, contact CCHP Member Services.

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) for help selecting a contracted provider to continue with your care or if you have any questions or problems in receiving covered services from a provider who is no longer part of CCHP.

CCHP is not required to provide continuity of care for services not covered by Medi-Cal, durable medical equipment, transportation, other ancillary services and carved-out service providers. To learn more about continuity of care and eligibility qualifications, and to hear about all available services, call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).
Costs

Member costs

CCHP serves people who qualify for Medi-Cal. In most cases, CCHP members do **not** have to pay for covered services, premiums or deductibles. Except for emergency care, urgent care or sensitive care, you must get pre-approval from CCHP before you visit a provider outside the CCHP network. If you do not get pre-approval and you go to a provider outside of the network for care that is not emergency care, urgent care or sensitive care, you may have to pay for care from providers who are out of the network. For a list of covered services, go to “Benefits and services.” You can also find the Provider Directory on the CCHP website at [www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org](http://www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org).

For members with long-term care and a share of cost

You may have to pay a share of cost each month for your long-term care services. The amount of your share of cost depends on your income and resources. Each month you will pay your own health care bills, including but not limited to Managed Long-Term Support Service (MLTSS) bills, until the amount that you have paid equals your share of cost. After that, your long-term care will be covered by CCHP for that month. You will not be covered by CCHP until you have paid your entire long-term care share of cost for the month.

How a provider gets paid

CCHP pays providers in these ways:

- Capitation payments
  - CCHP pays some providers a set amount of money every month for each CCHP member. This is called a capitation payment. CCHP and providers work together to decide on the payment amount.

- FFS payments
  - Some providers give care to CCHP members and then send CCHP a bill for the services they provided. This is called a FFS payment. CCHP and providers work together to decide how much each service costs.

To learn more about how CCHP pays providers, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY
If you receive a bill from a health care provider

Covered services are health care services that CCHP is responsible to pay for. If you get a bill for support services fees, copayments, or registration fees for a covered service, do not pay the bill. Call member services right away at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Asking CCHP to pay you back for expenses

If you paid for services you already received, you may qualify to be reimbursed (paid back) if you meet all of the following conditions:

- The service you received is a covered service that CCHP is responsible to pay for. CCHP will not reimburse you for a service that is not covered by CCHP.
- You received the covered service after you became an eligible CCHP member.
- You ask to be paid back within one year from the date you received the covered service.
- You provide proof that you paid for the covered service, such as a detailed receipt from the provider.
- You received the covered service from a Medi-Cal enrolled provider in CCHP’s network. You do not need to meet this condition if you received emergency services, family planning services, or another service that Medi-Cal allows out-of-network providers to perform without pre-approval.
- If the covered service normally requires pre-approval, you provide proof from the provider that shows a medical need for the covered service.

CCHP will tell you of its decision to reimburse you in a letter called a Notice of Action. If you meet all of the above conditions, the Medi-Cal-enrolled provider should pay you back for the full amount you paid. If the provider refuses to pay you back, CCHP will pay you back for the full amount you paid. We must reimburse you within 45 working days of receipt of the claim. If the provider is enrolled in Medi-Cal, but is not in the CCHP network and refuses to pay you back, CCHP will pay you back, but only up to the amount that FFS Medi-Cal would pay. CCHP will pay you back for the full out-of-pocket amount for emergency services, family planning services, or another service that Medi-Cal allows to be provided by out-of-network providers without pre-approval. If you do not meet one of the above conditions, CCHP will not pay you back.
CCHP will not pay you back if:

- You asked for and received services that are not covered by Medi-Cal, such as cosmetic services.
- The service is not a covered service for CCHP.
- You have an unmet Medi-Cal Share of Cost.
- You went to a doctor who does not take Medi-Cal and you signed a form that said you want to be seen anyway and you will pay for the services yourself.
- If you have Medicare Part D, copayments for prescriptions covered by your Medicare Part D plan.
3. How to get care

Getting health care services

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SO YOU WILL KNOW FROM WHOM OR WHAT GROUP OF PROVIDERS HEALTH CARE MAY BE OBTAINED

You can begin to get health care services on your effective date of enrollment. Always carry your CCHP ID card, Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC), and any other health insurance cards you have with you. Never let anyone else use your BIC or CCHP ID card.

New members with Medi-Cal coverage only must choose a primary care provider (PCP) in the CCHP network. New members with Medi-Cal and comprehensive other health coverage do not have to choose a PCP. The CCHP network is a group of doctors, hospitals and other providers who work with CCHP. You must choose a PCP within 30 days from the time you become a member in CCHP. If you do not choose a PCP, CCHP will choose one for you.

You may choose the same PCP or different PCPs for all family members in CCHP, as long as the PCP is available.

If you have a doctor you want to keep, or you want to find a new PCP, you can look in the Provider Directory. It has a list of all PCPs in the CCHP network. The Provider Directory has other information to help you choose a PCP. If you need a Provider Directory, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). You can also find the Provider Directory on the CCHP website at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.

If you cannot get the care you need from a participating provider in the CCHP network, your PCP must ask CCHP for approval to send you to an out-of-network provider. This is called a referral. You do not need approval to go to an out-of-network provider to get sensitive services that are described under the heading "Sensitive care" later in this chapter.

Read the rest of this chapter to learn more about PCPs, the Provider Directory and the provider network.
Primary care provider (PCP)

You must choose a PCP within 30 days of enrolling in CCHP. Depending on your age and sex, you may choose a general practitioner, OB/GYN, family practitioner, internist or pediatrician as your primary care provider (PCP). A nurse practitioner (NP), physician assistant (PA) or certified nurse midwife may also act as your PCP. If you choose an NP, PA or certified nurse midwife, you may be assigned a doctor to oversee your care. If you are in both Medicare and Medi-Cal, or if you have comprehensive other health care insurance, you do not have to choose a PCP.

You can choose an Indian Health Care Provider (IHCP) or Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) as your PCP. Depending on the type of provider, you may be able to choose one PCP for your entire family who are members of CCHP, as long as the PCP is available.

Note: American Indians may choose an IHCP as their PCP, even if the IHCP is not in the CCHP network.

If you do not choose a PCP within 30 days of enrollment, CCHP will assign you to a PCP. If you are assigned to a PCP and want to change, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). The change happens the first day of the next month.

Your PCP will:

- Get to know your health history and needs
- Keep your health records
- Give you the preventive and routine health care you need
- Refer (send) you to a specialist if you need one
- Arrange for hospital care if you need it

You can look in the Provider Directory to find a PCP in the CCHP network. The Provider Directory has a list of FQHCs that work with CCHP.

You can find the CCHP Provider Directory online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org or cchealth.org/FindAPrvider. Or you can request a Provider Directory to be mailed to you by calling 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). You can also call to find out if the PCP

Pharmacy benefits are now administered through the Fee-For-Service (FFS) Medi-Cal Rx program. To learn more, read the “Other Medi-Cal programs and services” section in Chapter 4.
you want is taking new patients.

**Choice of doctors and other providers**

You know your health care needs best, so it is best if you choose your PCP.

It is best to stay with one PCP so they can get to know your health care needs. However, if you want to change to a new PCP, you can change anytime. You must choose a PCP who is in the CCHP provider network and is taking new patients.

Your new choice will become your PCP within 1 business day after you request the change. If the PCP is not taking new patients, we will not be able to make the change unless you tell us you have seen the PCP before or believe the PCP will make an exception for you (or your child). If this happens, the change will only take place after the PCP tells us they will accept you (or your child) as a patient.

To change your PCP, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) or use the online form at cchealth.org/ChangePCP.

CCHP may change your PCP if the PCP is not taking new patients, has left the CCHP network, does not give care to patients your age, or if there are quality concerns with the PCP that are pending resolution. CCHP or your PCP may also ask you to change to a new PCP if you cannot get along with or agree with your PCP, or if you miss or are late to appointments. If CCHP needs to change your PCP, CCHP will tell you in writing.

If your PCP changes for one of the reasons above, you will get a letter in the mail. It will have the name of your new PCP. Call member services if you have questions about your new PCP or if you want a different PCP.

Some things to think about when picking a PCP:

- Does the PCP take care of children?
- Does the PCP work at a clinic I like to use?
- Is the PCP's office close to my home, work or children’s school?
- Is the PCP’s office near where I live and is it easy to get to the PCP’s office?
- Do the doctors and staff speak my language?
- Does the PCP work with a hospital that I like?
- Does the PCP provide the services that I may need?
- Do the PCP’s office hours fit my schedule?
Initial health assessment (IHA)

CCHP recommends that, as a new member, you visit your new PCP within the first 120 days for an initial health assessment (IHA). The purpose of the IHA is to help your PCP learn your health care history and needs. Your PCP may ask you some questions about your health history or may ask you to complete a questionnaire. Your PCP will also tell you about health education counseling and classes that may help you.

When you call to schedule your IHA appointment, tell the person who answers the phone that you are a member of CCHP. Give your CCHP ID number.

Take your BIC and CCHP ID card to your appointment. It is a good idea to take a list of your medications and questions with you to your visit. Be ready to talk with your PCP about your health care needs and concerns.

Be sure to call your PCP’s office if you are going to be late or cannot go to your appointment.

If you have questions about IHA, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Routine care

Routine care is regular health care. It includes preventive care, also called wellness or well care. It helps you stay healthy and helps keep you from getting sick. Preventive care includes regular checkups and health education and counseling. Children are able to receive much needed early preventive services like hearing and vision screenings, assessments of developmental process and many more services that are recommended by pediatricians’ Bright Futures guidelines (https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/periodicity_schedule.pdf). In addition to preventive care, routine care also includes care when you are sick. CCHP covers routine care from your PCP.

Your PCP will:

- Give you most of your routine care, including regular checkups, shots, treatment, prescriptions and medical advice
- Keep your health records
- Refer (send) you to specialists if needed
- Order X-rays, mammograms or lab work if you need them

When you need routine care, you will call your doctor for an appointment. Be sure to call your PCP before you get medical care, unless it is an emergency. For an emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.
To learn more about health care and services your plan covers, and what it does not cover, read “Benefits and services” and “Child and youth well care” in this handbook.

All CCHP providers can use aids and services to communicate with people with disabilities. They can also communicate with you in another language or format. Tell your provider or CCHP what you need.

Provider network

The provider network is the group of doctors, hospitals and other providers that work with CCHP. You will get most of your covered services through the CCHP network.

Note: American Indians may choose an IHCP as their PCP, even if the IHCP is not in the CCHP network.

If your PCP, hospital or other provider has a moral objection to providing you with a covered service, such as family planning or abortion, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). For more about moral objections, read the “Moral objection” section later in this chapter.

If your provider has a moral objection, they can help you find another provider who will give you the services you need. CCHP can also help you find a provider who will perform the service.

In-network providers

You will use providers in the CCHP network for most of your health care needs. You will get preventive and routine care from in-network providers. You will also use specialists, hospitals and other providers in the CCHP network.


You must get pre-approval (prior authorization) from CCHP before you visit a provider outside the CCHP network, including inside the CCHP service area, except in the
following situations:

- You need emergency services, in which case dial 911 or go to the nearest hospital
- You are outside the CCHP service area and need urgent care, in which case you can go to any urgent care facility
- You need family planning services, in which case you can go to any Medi-Cal provider without pre-approval
- You need mental health services, in which case you can go to either an in-network provider or a county mental health plan provider without pre-approval

If you are not in one of these situations, and you do not get pre-approval and get care from a provider outside of the network, you may have to pay for the care from providers who are out-of-network.

**Out-of-network providers who are inside the service area**

Out-of-network providers are those that do not have an agreement to work with CCHP. Except for emergency care, you may have to pay for care from providers who are out of the network. If you need covered health care services, you may be able to get them out of the network at no cost to you as long as they are medically necessary and not available in the network.

CCHP may approve a referral to an out-of-network provider if the services you need are not available in-network or are located very far from your home. If we give you a referral to an out-of-network provider, we will pay for your care.

For urgent care inside the CCHP service area, you must visit a CCHP network urgent care provider. You do not need pre-approval to get urgent care from an in-network provider. If you do not get pre-approval, you may have to pay for the urgent care you get from out-of-network provider inside the CCHP service area. For more information on emergency care, urgent care and sensitive care services, go to those headings in this chapter.

Note: If you are an American Indian, you can get care at an IHCP outside of our provider network without a referral.

If you need help with out-of-network services, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

**Outside the service area**

If you are outside of the CCHP service area and need care that is not an emergency or urgent, call your PCP right away. Or call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). CCHP’s
service area is Contra Costa County.

For emergency care, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. CCHP covers out-of-network emergency care. If you travel to Canada or Mexico and need emergency services requiring hospitalization, CCHP will cover your care. If you are traveling internationally outside of Canada or Mexico and need emergency services, urgent care, or any health care services CCHP will not cover your care.

If you paid for emergency services requiring hospitalization in Canada or Mexico, you can ask CCHP to pay you back. CCHP will review your request.

If you are in another State, including US territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands), you are covered for emergency care, but not all hospitals and doctors accept Medicaid (Medicaid is what Medi-Cal is called in other States). If you need emergency care outside of California, tell the hospital or emergency room doctor that you have Medi-Cal and are a CCHP member as soon as possible. Ask the hospital to make copies of your CCHP ID card. Tell the hospital and the doctors to bill CCHP. If you get a bill for services you received in another State, call CCHP immediately. We will work with the hospital and/or doctor to arrange for CCHP to pay for your care.

If you are outside of California and have an emergency need to fill outpatient prescription drugs, then please have the pharmacy call Medi-Cal Rx at 800-977-2273 for assistance.

Note: American Indians may get services at out-of-network IHCPs.

If you have questions about out-of-network or out-of-service-area care, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). If the office is closed and you want help from a representative, call CCHP’s Advice Nurse. Advice Nurses can help you twenty-four (24) hours per day, three-hundred sixty-five (365) days a year. CCHP Advice Nurse: 1-877-661-6230 (press 1).

If you need urgent care out of the CCHP service area, go to the nearest urgent care facility. If you are traveling outside the United States and need urgent care, CCHP will not cover your care. For more information on urgent care, go to the “Urgent care” heading later in this chapter.

Kaiser

If you are a Kaiser Permanente member, please see your Kaiser Permanente Evidence of Coverage. You may still keep this CCHP booklet handy in case you decide to switch your network back to CCHP’s Regional Medical Center Network or Community Provider
Doctors

You will choose your doctor to be your primary care provider (PCP) from the CCHP Provider Directory. The doctor you choose must be an in-network provider. To get a copy of the CCHP Provider Directory, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). Or find it online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.

If you are choosing a new doctor, you should also call to make sure the PCP you want is taking new patients.

If you had a doctor before you were a member of CCHP, and that doctor is not part of the CCHP network, you may be able to keep that doctor for a limited time. This is called continuity of care. You can read more about continuity of care in this handbook. To learn more, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

If you need a specialist, your PCP will refer you to a specialist in the CCHP network. Some specialists do not require a referral. For more information on referrals, go to the “Referrals” heading later in this chapter.

Remember, if you do not choose a PCP, CCHP will choose one for you, unless you have comprehensive other health coverage in addition to Medi-Cal. You know your health care needs best, so it is best if you choose. If you are in both Medicare and Medi-Cal, or if you have other health care insurance, you do not have to choose a PCP.

If you want to change your PCP, you must choose a PCP from the CCHP Provider Directory. Be sure the PCP is taking new patients. To change your PCP, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) or use the online form at cchealth.org/ChangePCP.

Hospitals

In an emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital.

If it is not an emergency and you need hospital care, your PCP will decide which hospital you go to. You will need to go to a hospital that your PCP uses and is in the CCHP provider network. The hospitals in the CCHP network are listed in the Provider Directory.

Women’s health specialists

You may go to a women’s health specialist within CCHP network for covered care necessary to provide women’s routine and preventive health care services. You do not need a referral from your PCP to get these services. For help finding a women’s health
specialist, you can call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). You may also call the 24/7 CCHP Advice Nurse at 1-877-661-6230 (press 1). You can also look for a women’s health specialist in our provider directory or online search tool at cchealth.org/FindAPProvider.

Provider Directory

The CCHP Provider Directory lists providers that participate in the CCHP network. The network is the group of providers that work with CCHP.

The CCHP Provider Directory lists hospitals, PCPs, specialists, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, physician assistants, family planning providers, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), outpatient mental health providers, managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) and Freestanding Birth Centers (FBCs).

The Provider Directory has CCHP in-network provider names, specialties, addresses, phone numbers, business hours and languages spoken. It tells if the provider is taking new patients. It also gives the level of physical accessibility for the building, such as parking, ramps, stairs with handrails, and restrooms with wide doors and grab bars. If you want information about a doctor’s education, training, and board certification, please call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

You can find the online Provider Directory at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org or cchealth.org/FindAPProvider.

If you need a printed Provider Directory, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

You can find a list of pharmacies that work with Medi-Cal Rx in the Medi-Cal Rx Pharmacy Directory at https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/. You can also find a pharmacy near you by calling Medi-Cal Rx at 1-800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711).

Timely access to care

Your in-network provider must offer you an appointment within the time frames listed below.

Sometimes waiting longer for care is not a problem. Your provider may give you a longer wait time if it would not be harmful to your health. It must be noted in your record that a longer wait time will not be harmful to your health.
### Appointment type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment type</th>
<th>You should be able to get an appointment within:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urgent care appointments that do not require pre-approval (prior authorization)</td>
<td>48 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urgent care appointments that do require pre-approval (prior authorization)</td>
<td>96 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-urgent (routine) primary care appointments</td>
<td>10 business days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-urgent (routine) specialist care appointments</td>
<td>15 business days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-urgent (routine) mental health provider (non-doctor) care appointments</td>
<td>10 business days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-urgent (routine) mental health provider (non-doctor) follow-up care appointments</td>
<td>10 business days of last appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-urgent (routine) appointments for ancillary (supporting) services for the diagnosis or treatment of injury, illness or other health condition</td>
<td>15 business days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other wait time standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other wait time standards</th>
<th>You should be able to get connected within:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member services telephone wait times during normal business hours</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone wait times for Nurse Advice Line</td>
<td>30 minutes (connected to nurse)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Travel time or distance to care

CCHP must follow travel time or distance standards for your care. Those standards help to make sure you can get care without having to travel too long or too far from where you live. Travel time or distance standards depend on the county you live in.

If CCHP is not able to provide care to you within these travel time or distance standards, DHCS may approve a different standard, called an alternative access standard. For

If you need care from a provider and that provider is located far from where you live, call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). They can help you find care with a provider located closer to you. If CCHP cannot find care for you with a closer provider, you can ask CCHP to arrange transportation for you to go to your provider, even if that provider is located far from where you live. If you need help with pharmacy providers, please call Medi-Cal Rx at 800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711).

It is considered far if you cannot get to that provider within the CCHP's travel time or distance standards for your county, regardless of any alternative access standard CCHP may use for your ZIP Code.

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**Appointments**

When you need health care:

- Call your PCP
- Have your CCHP ID number ready on the call
- Leave a message with your name and phone number if the office is closed
- Take your BIC and CCHP ID card to your appointment
- Ask for transportation to your appointment, if needed
- Ask for language assistance or interpreting services, before your appointment to have the services at the time of your visit, if needed
- Be on time for your appointment, arriving a few minutes early to sign in, fill out forms and answer any questions your PCP may have
- Call right away if you cannot keep your appointment or will be late
- Have your questions and medication information ready in case you need them

If you have an emergency, call **911** or go to the nearest emergency room.

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**Getting to your appointment**

If you don’t have a way to get to and from your appointments for covered services, we can help arrange transportation for you. This service, called medical transportation, is
not for emergencies. If you are having an emergency, call 911. Medical transportation is available for services and appointments that are not related to emergency services and may be available at no cost to you.

Go to the section “Transportation benefits for situations that are not emergencies” for more information.

**Canceling and rescheduling**

If you can't make your appointment, call your provider's office right away. Most doctors ask you to call 24 hours (1 business day) before your appointment if you have to cancel. If you miss repeated appointments, your doctor may not want to have you as a patient anymore.

**Payment**

You do not have to pay for covered services. In most cases, you will not get a bill from a provider. You must show your CCHP ID card and your Medi-Cal BIC when you get any health care services or prescriptions, so your provider knows who to bill. You may get an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) or a statement from a provider. EOBs and statements are not bills.

If you do get a bill, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). If you get a bill for prescriptions, call Medi-Cal Rx at 800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711). Or visit the Medi-Cal Rx website at https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/. Tell CCHP the amount charged, the date of service and the reason for the bill. You are not responsible to pay a provider for any amount owed by CCHP for any covered service. You must get pre-approval (prior authorization) from CCHP before you visit a provider outside the CCHP network, including inside the CCHP service area, except in the following situations:

- You need emergency services, in which case dial 911 or go to the nearest hospital
- You need family planning services or services related to testing for sexually transmitted infections, in which case you can go to any Medi-Cal provider without pre-approval
- You need mental health services, in which case you can go to either an in-network provider or a county mental health plan provider without pre-approval

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.
If you do not get pre-approval, you may have to pay for care from providers who are not in the network. If you need covered health care services, you may be able to get them at an out-of-network provider at no cost to you, as long as they are medically necessary, not available in the network and pre-approved by CCHP. For more information about emergency care, urgent care, and sensitive services, go to those headings in this chapter.

If you get a bill or are asked to pay a co-pay that you think you did not have to pay, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). If you pay the bill, you can file a claim form with CCHP. You will need to tell CCHP in writing why you had to pay for the item or service. CCHP will read your claim and decide if you can get money back. For questions or to ask for a claim form, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

If you receive services in the Veterans Affairs system or non-covered or unauthorized services received outside of California, you may be responsible for payment.

CCHP will not pay you back if:

- The services are not covered by Medi-Cal such as cosmetic services.
- You have an unmet Medi-Cal Share of Cost.
- You went to a doctor who does not take Medi-Cal and you signed a form that said you want to be seen anyway and you will pay for the services yourself.
- You asked to be paid back for co-pays for prescriptions covered by your Medicare Part D plan.

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**Referrals**

Your PCP or another specialist will provide you a referral to visit a specialist within the time frame listed in the “Timely access to care” section of this handbook, if you need one. A specialist is a doctor who has extra education in one area of medicine. Your PCP will work with you to choose a specialist. Your PCP’s office can help you set up a time to go to the specialist.

Other services that might need a referral include in-office procedures, X-rays, lab work and other services with doctors or providers who are not in CCHP’s network.

Your PCP may give you a form to take to the specialist. The specialist will fill out the form and send it back to your PCP. The specialist will treat you for as long as they think you need treatment.

If you have a health problem that needs special medical care for a long time, you may need a standing referral. This means you can go to the same specialist more than once.
without getting a referral each time.

If you have trouble getting a standing referral or want a copy of the CCHP referral policy, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

You do not need a referral for:

- PCP visits
- Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) visits
- Urgent or emergency care visits
- Adult sensitive services, such as sexual assault care
- Family planning services (to learn more, call Office of Family Planning Information and Referral Service at 1-800-942-1054)
- HIV testing and counseling (12 years or older)
- Sexually transmitted infection services (12 years or older)
- Chiropractic services (a referral may be required when provided by out-of-network FQHCs, RHCs and IHCPs)
- Initial mental health assessment

Minors can also get certain outpatient mental health services, sensitive services and substance use disorder services without parent's consent. For more information read “Minor consent services” and “Substance use disorder treatment services” in this handbook.


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**Pre-approval (prior authorization)**

For some types of care, your PCP or specialist will need to ask CCHP for permission before you get the care. This is called asking for prior authorization, prior approval, or pre-approval. It means that CCHP must make sure that the care is medically necessary or needed.

Medically Necessary services are reasonable and necessary to protect your life, keep you from becoming seriously ill or disabled, or reduce severe pain from a diagnosed disease, illness or injury. For Members under the age of 21, Medi-Cal services includes care that is medically necessary to fix or help relieve a physical or mental illness or
condition.

The following services always need pre-approval (prior authorization), even if you get them from a provider in the CCHP network:

- Hospitalization, if not an emergency
- Services out of the CCHP service area, if not an emergency or urgent
- Outpatient surgery
- Long-term care or skilled nursing services at a nursing facility
- Specialized treatments, imaging, testing, and procedures
- Medical transportation services when it is not an emergency. Emergency ambulance services do not require pre-approval.

Under Health and Safety Code Section 1367.01(h)(1), CCHP will decide routine pre-approvals (prior authorizations) within 5 working days of when CCHP gets the information reasonably needed to decide.

For requests in which a provider indicates or CCHP determines that following the standard timeframe could seriously endanger your life or health or ability to attain, maintain, or regain maximum function, CCHP will make an expedited (fast) pre-approval (prior authorization) decision. CCHP will give you notice as quickly as your health condition requires and no later than 72 hours after getting the request for services.

Pre-approval (prior authorization) requests are reviewed by clinical or medical staff, such as doctors, nurses and pharmacists.

CCHP does not pay the reviewers to deny coverage or services. If CCHP does not approve the request, CCHP will send you a Notice of Action (NOA) letter. The NOA letter will tell you how to file an appeal if you do not agree with the decision.

CCHP will contact you if CCHP needs more information or more time to review your request.

You never need pre-approval (prior authorization) for emergency care, even if it is out of the network and out of your service area. This includes labor and delivery if you are pregnant. You do not need pre-approval for certain sensitive care services. To learn more about sensitive care services, go to “Sensitive care” later in this chapter.

For questions about pre-approval (prior authorization), call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).
Second opinions

You might want a second opinion about care your provider says you need or about your diagnosis or treatment plan. For example, you may want a second opinion if you are not sure you need a prescribed treatment or surgery, or you have tried to follow a treatment plan and it has not worked.

If you want to get a second opinion, we will refer you to a qualified network provider who can give you a second opinion. For help choosing a provider, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

CCHP will pay for a second opinion if you or your network provider asks for it and you get the second opinion from a network provider. You do not need permission from CCHP to get a second opinion from a network provider. However, if you need a referral, your network provider can help you get a referral for a second opinion if you need one.

If there is no provider in the CCHP network to give you a second opinion, CCHP will pay for a second opinion from an out-of-network provider. CCHP will tell you within 5 business days if the provider you choose for a second opinion is approved. If you have a chronic, severe or serious illness, or face an immediate and serious threat to your health, including, but not limited to, loss of life, limb, or major body part or bodily function, CCHP will tell you in writing within 72 hours.

If CCHP denies your request for a second opinion, you may file a grievance. To learn more about grievances, go to the “Complaints” heading in the Chapter titled “Reporting and Solving Problems” in this handbook.

Sensitive care

Minor consent services

If you are under age 18, you can receive some services without a parent or guardian’s permission. These services are called minor consent services.

You may get the following services without your parent or guardian’s permission:

- Sexual assault services, including outpatient mental health care
- Pregnancy
- Family planning and birth control
- Abortion services
If you are 12 years old or older, you may also get these services without your parent or guardian’s permission:

- Outpatient mental health care for:
  - Sexual assault
  - Incest
  - Physical assault
  - Child abuse
  - When you have thoughts of hurting yourself or others
- HIV/AIDS prevention, testing, and treatment
- Sexually transmitted infections prevention, testing, and treatment
- Substance use disorder treatment
  - For more information go to “Substance use disorder treatment services” in this handbook.

For pregnancy testing, family planning services, birth control services, or services for sexually transmitted infections, the doctor or clinic does not have to be part of the CCHP network. You can choose any Medi-Cal provider and go to them for these services without a referral or pre-approval (prior authorization). For minor consent services that are not specialty mental health services, you can go to an in-network provider without a referral and without pre-approval. Your PCP does not have to refer you and you do not need to get pre-approval from CCHP to get minor consent services that are covered under this Member Handbook.

Minor consent services that are specialty mental health services are not covered under this Member Handbook. Specialty mental health services are covered by the county mental health plan for the county where you live.

Minors can talk to a representative in private about their health concerns by calling the 24/7 CCHP Advice Nurse. Advice Nurses can help you twenty-four (24) hours per day, three hundred sixty five (365) days a year. CCHP Advice Nurse: 1-877-661-6230 (press 1).

CCHP will not send information about getting sensitive services to parents or guardians. Please refer to the “Notice of Privacy Practices” section for information about how to request for confidential communications related to sensitive services.

**Adult sensitive care services**

As an adult (18 years or older), you may not want to go to your PCP for certain sensitive
or private care. If so, you may choose any doctor or clinic for the following types of care:

- Family planning and birth control (including sterilization for adults 21 and older)
- Pregnancy testing and counseling
- HIV/AIDS prevention and testing
- Sexually transmitted infections testing and treatment
- Sexual assault care
- Outpatient abortion services

The doctor or clinic does not have to be part of the CCHP network. You can choose any Medi-Cal provider and go to them without a referral or pre-approval (prior authorization) for these services. Services from an out-of-network provider not related to sensitive care may not be covered. For help finding a doctor or clinic giving these services, or for help getting to these services (including transportation), you can call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). You may also call the 24/7 CCHP Advice Nurse. Advice Nurses can help you twenty-four (24) hours per day, three hundred sixty five (365) days a year. CCHP Advice Nurse: 1-877-661-6230 (press 1).

CCHP will not send information about getting sensitive services to other household members. Please refer to the “Notice of Privacy Practices” section for information about how to request for confidential communications related to sensitive services.

**Moral objection**

Some providers have a moral objection to some covered services. This means they have a right to **not** offer some covered services if they morally disagree with the services. If your provider has a moral objection, they will help you find another provider for the needed services. CCHP can also work with you to find a provider.

Some hospitals and other providers do not provide one or more of the following services that may be covered under your plan contract and that you or your family member might need:

- Family planning;
- Contraceptive services, including emergency contraception;
- Sterilization, including tubal ligation at the time of labor and delivery;
- Infertility treatments;
- Abortion.

You should obtain more information before you enroll. Call your prospective doctor,
medical group, independent practice association, or clinic, or call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) to ensure that you can obtain the health care services that you need.

These services are available and CCHP must ensure you or your family member sees a provider or is admitted to a hospital that will perform the covered services. Call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) if you have questions or need help finding a provider.

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### Urgent care

Urgent care is **not** for an emergency or life-threatening condition. It is for services you need to prevent serious damage to your health from a sudden illness, injury or complication of a condition you already have. Most urgent care appointments do not need pre-approval (prior authorization) and are available within 48 hours of your request for an appointment. If the urgent care services you need require a pre-approval, you will be offered an appointment within 96 hours of your request.

For urgent care, call your PCP. If you cannot reach your PCP, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). Or you can call the 24/7 CCHP Advice Nurse, to learn the level of care that is best for you. Advice Nurses can help you twenty-four (24) hours per day, three hundred sixty five (365) days a year. **CCHP Advice Nurse: 1-877-661-6230 (press 1)**

If you need urgent care out of the area, go to the nearest urgent care facility.

Urgent care needs could be:

- Cold
- Sore throat
- Fever
- Ear pain
- Sprained muscle
- Maternity services

You must get urgent care services from an in-network provider when you are inside CCHP’s service area. You do not need pre-approval (prior authorization) for urgent care from in-network providers inside CCHP’s service area. If you are outside the CCHP service area, but inside the United States, you do not need pre-approval to get urgent care. Go to the nearest urgent care facility. Medi-Cal does not cover urgent care.

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at [www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org](http://www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org).
services outside the United States. If you are traveling outside the United States and need urgent care, we will not cover your care.

If you need mental health urgent care, call your county mental health plan or Member Services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). You may call your county mental health plan or your CCHP Behavioral Health Organization any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To find all counties’ toll-free telephone numbers online, visit http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/MHPContactList.aspx.

Your urgent care provider might give you medication as part of your urgent care visit. If you get medications as part of your visit, CCHP will cover the medications as part of your covered urgent care. If your urgent care provider gives you a prescription to take to a pharmacy, the Medi-Cal Rx program will cover the medications. To learn more about Medi-Cal Rx, go to the “Prescription drugs covered by Medi-Cal Rx” heading in the section “Other Medi-Cal programs and services” in Chapter 4.

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**Emergency care**

For emergency care, call **911** or go to the nearest emergency room (ER). For emergency care, you do **not** need pre-approval (prior authorization) from CCHP.

Inside the United States, including any U.S. Territories, you have the right to use any hospital or other setting for emergency care.

Outside the U.S., only emergency services requiring hospitalization in Canada and Mexico are covered. Emergency care and other care in other countries are not covered.

Emergency care is for life-threatening medical conditions. This care is for an illness or injury that a prudent (reasonable) layperson (not a health care professional) with average knowledge of health and medicine could expect that, if you don’t get care right away, you would place your health (or your unborn baby’s health) in serious danger, or you risk serious harm to your body functions, body organ or body part. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Active labor
- Broken bone
- Severe pain
- Chest pain
- Trouble breathing
- Severe burn
- Drug overdose
- Fainting
- Severe bleeding
- Psychiatric emergency conditions, such as severe depression or suicidal thoughts (may be covered by county mental health plans)

Do not go to the ER for routine care or care that is not needed right away. You should get routine care from your PCP, who knows you best. If you are not sure if your medical condition is an emergency, call your PCP. You may also call the 24/7 CCHP Advice Nurse at 1-877-661-6230 (press 1).

If you need emergency care away from home, go to the nearest emergency room (ER), even if it is not in the CCHP network. If you go to an ER, ask them to call CCHP. You or the hospital to which you were admitted should call CCHP within 24 hours after you get emergency care. If you are traveling outside the U.S., other than to Canada or Mexico, and need emergency care, CCHP will not cover your care.

If you need emergency transportation, call 911. You do not need to ask your PCP or CCHP first before you go to the ER.

If you need care in an out-of-network hospital after your emergency (post-stabilization care), the hospital will call CCHP.

Remember: Do not call 911 unless it is an emergency. Get emergency care only for an emergency, not for routine care or a minor illness like a cold or sore throat. If it is an emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

CCHP Nurse Advice Line gives you free medical information and advice 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Call 1-877-661-6230 (press 1) (TTY 711).

Nurse advice line

CCHP Nurse advice line gives you free medical information and advice 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Call 1-877-661-6230 (press 1) (TTY 711) to:

- Talk to a nurse who will answer medical questions, give care advice, and help you decide if you should visit a provider right away
- Get help with medical conditions such as diabetes or asthma, including advice about what kind of provider may be right for your condition

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.
The Nurse advice line cannot help with routine clinic appointments or medication refills. Call your provider’s office if you need help with these.

The Nurse advice line can connect with an interpreter if you do not speak English. Please call our 24/7 Nurse advice line if you need medical advice and your regular doctor is not available.

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**Advance directives**

An advance health directive is a legal form. You can list on the form the health care you want in case you cannot talk or make decisions later on. You can list what care you do not want. You can name someone, such as a spouse, to make decisions for your health care if you cannot.

You can get an advance directive form at pharmacies, hospitals, law offices and doctors’ offices. You may have to pay for the form. You can also find and download a free form online. You can ask your family, PCP or someone you trust to help you fill out the form.

You have the right to have your advance directive placed in your medical records. You have the right to change or cancel your advance directive at any time.

You have the right to learn about changes to advance directive laws. CCHP will tell you about changes to the state law no longer than 90 days after the change.

You can call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) for more information.

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**Organ and tissue donation**

You can help save lives by becoming an organ or tissue donor. If you are between 15 and 18 years old, you can become a donor with the written consent of your parent or guardian. You can change your mind about being an organ donor at any time. If you want to learn more about organ or tissue donation, talk to your PCP. You can also visit the United States Department of Health and Human Services website at [www.organdonor.gov](http://www.organdonor.gov).
4. Benefits and services

What your health plan covers

This chapter explains your covered services as a member of CCHP. Your covered services are free as long as they are medically necessary and provided by a network provider. You must ask us for pre-approval (prior authorization) if the care is out-of-network except for certain sensitive services and emergency care. Your health plan may cover medically necessary services from an out-of-network provider. But you must ask CCHP for pre-approval (prior authorization) for this. Medically necessary services are reasonable and necessary to protect your life, keep you from becoming seriously ill or disabled, or reduces severe pain from a diagnosed disease, illness or injury. For Members under the age of 21, Medi-Cal services include care that is medically necessary to fix or help relieve a physical or mental illness or condition. For more details on your covered services, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Members under 21 years old get extra benefits and services. Read Chapter 5: Child and youth well care for more information.

Some of the basic health benefits CCHP offers are listed below. Benefits with a star (*) may need pre-approval. Benefits with a number next to the star (*) need pre-approval after an initial number of visits are exceeded. Some benefits may require either a provider referral alone or a provider referral in addition to CCHP pre-approval.
- Acupuncture*  
- Acute (short-term treatment) home health therapies and services  
- Adult immunizations (shots)  
- Allergy testing and injections  
- Ambulance services for an emergency  
- Anesthesiologist services  
- Asthma prevention  
- Audiology*  
- Behavioral health treatments*  
- Biomarker testing  
- Cardiac rehabilitation*  
- Chiropractic services*  
- Chemotherapy & Radiation therapy  
- Cognitive health assessments  
- Community health worker services  
- Dental services - limited (performed by medical professional/PCP in a medical office)*  
- Dialysis/hemodialysis services*  
- Doula services  
- Durable medical equipment (DME)*  
- Dyadic care services  
- Emergency room visits  
- Enteral and parenteral nutrition*  
- Family planning office visits and counseling (you can go to a non-participating provider)  
- Family therapy  
- Habilitative services and devices*  
- Hearing aids*  
- Home health care*  
- Hospice care*  
- Inpatient medical and surgical care*  
- Lab and radiology*  
- Long-term home health therapies and services*  
- Maternity and newborn care  
- Major organ transplant*  
- Occupational therapy*  
- Orthotics/prostheses*  
- Ostomy and urological supplies*  
- Outpatient hospital services  
- Outpatient mental health services  
- Outpatient surgery*  
- Palliative care*  
- PCP visits  
- Pediatric services  
- Physical therapy*  
- Podiatry services*  
- Pulmonary rehabilitation*  
- Rapid Whole Genome Sequencing*  
- Rehabilitation services and devices*  
- Skilled nursing services  
- Specialist visits*  
- Speech therapy*  
- Surgical services*  
- Telemedicine/Telehealth  
- Transgender services*  
- Urgent care  
- Vision services*  
- Women’s health services

Definitions and descriptions of covered services can be found in Chapter 8, “Important numbers and words to know.”
Medically necessary services are reasonable and necessary to protect your life, keep you from becoming seriously ill or disabled, or reduce severe pain from a diagnosed disease, illness or injury.

Medically necessary services include those services that are necessary for age-appropriate growth and development, or to attain, maintain, or regain functional capacity.

For Members under 21 years of age, a service is medically necessary if it is necessary to correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses or conditions under the federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. This includes care that is necessary to fix or help relieve a physical or mental illness or condition or maintain the member’s condition to keep it from getting worse.

Medically necessary services do not include:

- Treatments that are untested or still being tested
- Services or items not generally accepted as effective
- Services outside the normal course and length of treatment or services that don’t have clinical guidelines
- Services for caregiver or provider convenience

CCHP will coordinate with other programs to ensure that you receive all medically necessary services, even if those services are covered by another program and not CCHP.

Medically necessary services include covered services that are reasonable and necessary to:

- Protect life;
- Prevent significant illness or significant disability;
- Alleviate severe pain;
- Achieve age-appropriate growth and development; and
- Attain, maintain, and regain functional capacity.
For Members less than 21 years of age, medically necessary services include all covered services, identified above, and any other necessary health care, diagnostic services, treatment, and other measures to correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions, as required by the federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit.

EPSDT provides a broad range of prevention, diagnostic, and treatment services for low-income infants, children and adolescents under age 21. The EPSDT benefit is more robust than the benefit for adults and is designed to assure that children receive early detection and care, so that health problems are averted or diagnosed and treated as early as possible. The goal of EPSDT is to assure that individual children get the health care they need when they need it – the right care to the right child at the right time in the right setting.

CCHP will coordinate with other programs to ensure that you receive all medically necessary services, even if those services are covered by another program and not CCHP.

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**Medi-Cal benefits covered by CCHP**

**Outpatient (ambulatory) services**

*Adult immunizations*

You can get adult immunizations (shots) from a network provider without pre-approval (prior authorization). CCHP covers those shots recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including shots you need when you travel.

You can also get some adult immunization (shots) services in a pharmacy through Medi-Cal Rx. To learn more about the Medi-Cal Rx program, read the Other Medi-Cal programs and services section in this chapter.

*Allergy care*

CCHP covers allergy testing and treatment, including allergy desensitization, hypo-sensitization or immunotherapy.
**Anesthesiologist services**

CCHP covers anesthesia services that are medically necessary when you get outpatient care. This may include anesthesia for dental procedures when provided by an anesthesiologist, who may require pre-approval (prior authorization).

**Chiropractic services**

CCHP covers chiropractic services, limited to the treatment of the spine by manual manipulation. A provider referral for chiropractic services is needed for the initial visit and up to 6 follow-up visits (or 7 visits total). CCHP may pre-approve additional or other services as medically necessary.

The following members are eligible for chiropractic services:

- Children under age 21
- Pregnant people through the end of the month that includes 60-days following the end of a pregnancy
- Residents in a skilled nursing facility, intermediate care facility, or subacute care facility
- All members when services are provided at county hospital outpatient departments, outpatient clinics, FQHCs or RHCs that are in the CCHP’s network. Not all FQHCs, RHCs or county hospitals offer outpatient chiropractic services.

**Cognitive health assessments**

CCHP covers an annual brief cognitive health assessment for members who are 65 years of age or older, and are otherwise not eligible for a similar assessment as part of an annual wellness visit under the Medicare Program. A cognitive health assessment looks for signs of Alzheimer’s disease or dementia.

**Community health worker services**

CCHP covers community health worker (CHW) services for individuals when recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner to prevent disease, disability, and other health conditions or their progression; prolong life; and promote physical and mental health and efficiency. Services may include:

- Health education and training, including control and prevention of chronic or infectious diseases; behavioral, perinatal and oral health conditions; and injury prevention
• Health promotion and coaching, including goal setting and creating action plans to address disease prevention and management

**Dialysis and hemodialysis services**
CCHP covers dialysis treatments. CCHP also covers hemodialysis (chronic dialysis) services if your doctor submits a request and CCHP approves it.

Medi-Cal coverage does not include:
• Comfort, convenience, or luxury equipment, supplies and features
• Non-medical items, such as generators or accessories to make home dialysis equipment portable for travel

**Doula services**
CCHP covers doula services to include personal support to pregnant individuals and families throughout pregnancy, labor, and the postpartum period.

**Dyadic care services**
CCHP covers dyadic care services for members and their caregivers that are medically necessary.

**Family Therapy**
CCHP covers family therapy when medically necessary and composed of at least two family members.

Examples of family therapy include but not limited to:
• Child-parent psychotherapy (ages 0 through 5)
• Parent child interactive therapy (ages 2 through 12)
• Cognitive-behavioral couple therapy (adults)

**Outpatient surgery**
CCHP covers outpatient surgical procedures. Those needed for diagnostic purposes, procedures considered to be elective, and specified outpatient medical or dental procedures must have pre-approval (prior authorization).

**Physician services**
CCHP covers physician services that are medically necessary.
**Podiatry (foot) services**

CCHP covers podiatry services as medically necessary for diagnosis and medical, surgical, mechanical, manipulative and electrical treatment of the human foot. This includes the ankle and tendons that insert into the foot and the nonsurgical treatment of the muscles and tendons of the leg controlling the functions of the foot.

**Treatment therapies**

CCHP covers different treatment therapies, including:

- Chemotherapy
- Radiation therapy

**Maternity and newborn care**

CCHP covers these maternity and newborn care services:

- Breastfeeding education and aids
- Delivery and postpartum care
- Breast pumps and supplies
- Prenatal care
- Birthing center services
- Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)
- Licensed Midwife (LM)
- Diagnosis of fetal genetic disorders and counseling
- Newborn care services

**Telehealth services**

Telehealth is a way of getting services without being in the same physical location as your provider. Telehealth may involve having a live conversation with your provider. Or telehealth may involve sharing information with your provider without a live conversation. You can receive many services through telehealth. However, telehealth may not be available for all covered services. You can contact your provider to learn which types of services may be available through telehealth. It is important that both you and your provider agree that the use of telehealth for a particular service is appropriate for you. You have the right to in-person services and are not required to use telehealth even if your provider agrees that it is appropriate for you.
Mental health services

Outpatient mental health services

The CCHP covers a member for an initial mental health assessment without needing pre-approval (prior authorization). You may get a mental health assessment at any time from a licensed mental health provider in the CCHP network without a referral.

Your PCP or mental health provider may make a referral for additional mental health screening to a specialist within the CCHP network to determine your level of impairment. If your mental health screening results determine you are in mild or moderate distress or have impairment of mental, emotional or behavioral functioning, CCHP can provide mental health services for you. CCHP covers mental health services such as:

- Individual and group mental health evaluation and treatment (psychotherapy)
- Psychological testing when clinically indicated to evaluate a mental health condition
- Development of cognitive skills to improve attention, memory and problem solving
- Outpatient services for the purposes of monitoring medication therapy
- Outpatient laboratory, medications that are not already covered under the Medi-Cal Rx Contract Drug List (https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/), supplies and supplements
- Psychiatric consultation
- Family Therapy

For help finding more information on mental health services provided by CCHP, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

If your PCP or mental health provider cannot provide you treatment for a mental health disorder available in the CCHP network and within the times listed above in the “Timely access to care” section, CCHP will cover and help you arrange out-of-network services.

If your mental health screening results determine you may have a higher level of impairment and need specialty mental health services (SMHS), your PCP or your mental health provider will refer you to the county mental health plan to get an assessment and help you connect with the next step in the process.

To learn more, read “Other Medi-Cal programs and services” on page 76 under, “Specialty mental health services.”
Emergency services

Inpatient and outpatient services needed to treat a medical emergency

CCHP covers all services that are needed to treat a medical emergency that happens in the U.S. (including territories such as Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, etc.). CCHP also covers emergency care that requires hospitalization in Canada or Mexico. A medical emergency is a medical condition with severe pain or serious injury. The condition is so serious that, if it does not get immediate medical attention, a prudent layperson could expect it to result in:

- Serious risk to your health; or
- Serious harm to bodily functions; or
- Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part; or
- In the case of a pregnant person in active labor, meaning labor at a time when either of the following would occur:
  - There is not enough time to safely transfer you to another hospital before delivery.
  - The transfer may pose a threat to your health or safety or to that of your unborn child.

If a hospital emergency room gives you up to a 72-hour supply of an outpatient prescription drug as part of your treatment, the prescription drug will be covered as part of your covered Emergency Services. If a hospital emergency room provider gives you a prescription that you have to take to an outpatient pharmacy to be filled, Medi-Cal Rx will be responsible for the coverage of that prescription.

If a pharmacist at an outpatient pharmacy gives you an emergency supply of a medication, that emergency supply will be covered by Medi-Cal Rx and not CCHP. Have the pharmacy call Medi-Cal Rx at 800-977-2273 if they need help in giving you an emergency medication supply.

Emergency transportation services

CCHP covers ambulance services to help you get to the nearest place of care in emergency situations. This means that your condition is serious enough that other ways of getting to a place of care could risk your health or life. No services are covered outside the U.S., except for emergency services that require you to be in the hospital in Canada or Mexico. If you receive emergency ambulance services in Canada and
Mexico and you are not hospitalized during that episode of care, your ambulance services will not be covered by CCHP.

**Hospice and palliative care**

CCHP covers hospice care and palliative care for children and adults, which help reduce physical, emotional, social and spiritual discomforts. Adults age 21 years or older may not receive both hospice care and palliative care services at the same time.

**Hospice care**

Hospice care is a benefit that services terminally ill members. Hospice care requires the member to have a life expectancy of 6 months or less. It is an intervention that focuses mainly on pain and symptom management rather than on a cure to prolong life.

Hospice care includes:

- Nursing services
- Physical, occupational or speech services
- Medical social services
- Home health aide and homemaker services
- Medical supplies and appliances
- Some drugs and biological services (some may be available through FFS Medi-Cal Rx)
- Counselling services
- Continuous nursing services on a 24-hour basis during periods of crisis and as necessary to maintain the terminally ill member at home
- Inpatient respite care for up to five consecutive days at a time in a hospital, skilled nursing facility or hospice facility
- Short-term inpatient care for pain control or symptom management in a hospital, skilled nursing facility or hospice facility

**Palliative care**

Palliative care is patient and family-centered care that improves quality of life by anticipating, preventing and treating suffering. Palliative care does not require the member to have a life expectancy of six months or less. Palliative care may be provided at the same time as curative care.

Palliative care includes:

- Advance care planning
• Palliative care assessment and consultation
• Plan of care including all authorized palliative and curative care
• Plan of care team including, but not limited to:
  ▪ Doctor of medicine or osteopathy
  ▪ Physician assistant
  ▪ Registered nurse
  ▪ Licensed vocational nurse or nurse practitioner
  ▪ Social worker
  ▪ Chaplain
• Care coordination
• Pain and symptom management
• Mental health and medical social services

Adults who are age 21 or older cannot receive both palliative care and hospice care at the same time. If you are getting palliative care and meet the eligibility for hospice care, you can ask to change to hospice care at any time.

Hospitalization

Anesthesiologist services
CCHP covers medically necessary anesthesiologist services during covered hospital stays. An anesthesiologist is a provider who specializes in giving patients anesthesia. Anesthesia is a type of medicine used during some medical or dental procedures.

Inpatient hospital services
CCHP covers medically necessary inpatient hospital care when you are admitted to the hospital.

Rapid Whole Genome Sequencing
Rapid Whole Genome Sequencing (rWGS) is a covered benefit for any Medi-Cal member who is one year of age or younger and is getting inpatient hospital services in an intensive care unit. It includes individual sequencing, trio sequencing for a parent or parents and their baby, and ultra-rapid sequencing. rWGS is a new way to diagnose conditions in time to affect ICU care of children one year of age or younger. If your child is eligible for California Children’s Services (CCS), CCS may cover the hospital stay and the rWGS.
Surgical services
CCHP covers medically necessary surgeries performed in a hospital.

The Postpartum Care Extension Program
The Postpartum Care Extension Program provides extended coverage for Medi-Cal members during both the pregnancy and after pregnancy.

The Postpartum Care Extension Program extends coverage by CCHP for up to 12 months after the end of the pregnancy regardless of income, citizenship, or immigration status and no additional action is needed.

Rehabilitative and habilitative (therapy) services and devices
This benefit includes services and devices to help people with injuries, disabilities or chronic conditions to gain or recover mental and physical skills.

We cover rehabilitative and habilitative services described in this section if all of the following requirements are met:

- The services are medically necessary
- The services are to address a health condition
- The services are to help you keep, learn, or improve skills and functioning for daily living
- You receive the services at an in-network facility, unless an in-network doctor determines that it is medically necessary for you to receive the services in another location, or an in-network facility is not available to treat your health condition.

The plan covers:

Acupuncture
CCHP covers acupuncture services to prevent, modify or alleviate the perception of severe, persistent chronic pain resulting from a generally recognized medical condition. Outpatient acupuncture services (with or without electric stimulation of needles) are covered when provided by a physician, dentist, podiatrist or acupuncturist. Members may self-refer or go without a provider referral, for an initial visit and up to 6 follow-up visits (or 7 visits total). CCHP may pre-approve (prior authorize) additional services as medically necessary.
**Audiology (hearing)**

CCHP covers audiology services. A provider referral for outpatient audiology is needed for an initial visit and up to 6 follow-up visits (or 7 visits total). CCHP may pre-approve (prior authorize) additional services as medically necessary.

**Behavioral health treatments**

CCHP covers behavioral health treatment (BHT) services for members under 21 years of age through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. BHT includes services and treatment programs, such as applied behavior analysis and evidence-based behavior intervention programs that develop or restore, to the maximum extent practicable, the functioning of an individual under 21 years old.

BHT services teach skills using behavioral observation and reinforcement, or through prompting to teach each step of a targeted behavior. BHT services are based on reliable evidence and are not experimental. Examples of BHT services include behavioral interventions, cognitive behavioral intervention packages, comprehensive behavioral treatment and applied behavioral analysis.

BHT services must be medically necessary, prescribed by a licensed doctor or psychologist, approved by the plan, and provided in a way that follows the approved treatment plan.

**Cardiac rehabilitation**

CCHP covers inpatient and outpatient cardiac rehabilitative services.

**Durable medical equipment (DME)**

CCHP covers the purchase or rental of DME supplies, equipment and other services with a prescription from a doctor, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists. Prescribed DME items may be covered as medically necessary to preserve bodily functions essential to activities of daily living or to prevent major physical disability.

Generally, CCHP does not cover the following:

- Comfort, convenience or luxury equipment, features and supplies, except for retail-grade breast pumps as described under “Breast pumps and supplies” under the heading “Maternity and newborn care in this chapter
- Items not intended for maintaining normal activities of daily living, such as exercise equipment (including devices intended to provide additional support
for recreational or sports activities)
- Hygiene equipment, except when medically necessary for a Member under age 21
- Nonmedical items, such as sauna baths or elevators
- Modifications to your home or car
- Devices for testing blood or other body substances (however diabetes blood glucose monitors, continuous glucose monitors, test strips and lancets are covered by Medi-Cal Rx)
- Electronic monitors of the heart or lungs except infant apnea monitors
- Repair or replacement of equipment due to loss, theft, or misuse, except when medically necessary for a member under age 21
- Other items not generally used primarily for health care

However, in some cases, these items may be approved with Prior Authorization (Pre-Approval) submitted by your doctor.

**Enteral and parenteral nutrition**

These methods of delivering nutrition to the body are used when a medical condition prevents you from eating food normally. Enteral nutrition formulas and parenteral nutrition products may be covered through Medi-Cal Rx, when medically necessary. CCHP may cover enteral and parenteral pumps and tubing, when medically necessary.

**Hearing aids**

CCHP covers hearing aids if you are tested for hearing loss, the hearing aids are medically necessary, and have a prescription from your doctor. Coverage is limited to the lowest cost aid that meets your medical needs. CCHP will cover one hearing aid unless an aid for each ear is needed for results significantly better than you can get with one aid.

Hearing aids for Members under age 21

State law requires children who need hearing aid to be referred to the California Children's Services (CCS) program to determine if the child is eligible for CCS. If the child is eligible for CCS, CCS will cover the costs for medically necessary hearing aids. If the child is not eligible for CCS, we will cover medically necessary hearing aids as part of Medi-Cal coverage.

Hearing aids for Members age 21 and older

Under Medi-Cal, we cover the following for each covered hearing aid:
- Ear molds needed for fitting
- One standard battery package
- Visits to make sure the aid is working right
- Visits for cleaning and fitting your hearing aid
- Repair of your hearing aid

Under Medi-Cal, we will cover a replacement hearing aid if:
- Your hearing loss is such that your current hearing aid is not able to correct it
- Your hearing aid is lost, stolen, or broken and cannot be fixed and it was not your fault. You must give us a note that tells us how this happened.

For adults age 21 and older, Medi-Cal does not include:
- Replacement hearing aid batteries

**Home health services**

CCHP covers health services provided in your home, when prescribed by your doctor and found to be medically necessary.

Home health services are limited to services that Medi-Cal covers such as:
- Part-time skilled nursing care
- Part-time home health aide
- Skilled physical, occupational and speech therapy
- Medical social services
- Medical supplies

**Medical supplies, equipment and appliances**

CCHP covers medical supplies that are prescribed by doctor, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists. Some medical supplies are covered through FFS Medi-Cal Rx and not CCHP.

Medi-Cal coverage does not include the following:
- Common household items including, but not limited to:
  - Adhesive tape (all types)
  - Rubbing alcohol
  - Cosmetics
  - Cotton balls and swabs
  - Dusting powders
- Tissue wipes
- Witch hazel

- Common household remedies including, but not limited to:
  - White petrolatum
  - Dry skin oils and lotions
  - Talc and talc combination products
  - Oxidizing agents such as hydrogen peroxide
  - Carbamide peroxide and sodium perborate

- Non-prescription shampoos
- Topical preparations that contain benzoic and salicylic acid ointment, salicylic acid cream, ointment or liquid and zinc oxide paste
- Other items not generally used primarily for health care and which are regularly and primarily used by persons who do not have a specific medical need for them.

**Occupational therapy**

CCHP covers occupational therapy services, including occupational therapy evaluation, treatment planning, treatment, instruction and consultative services. A provider referral for occupational therapy services is needed for an initial visit and up to 6 follow-up visits (or 7 visits total). CCHP may pre-authorize additional services as medically necessary.

**Orthotics/prostheses**

CCHP covers orthotic and prosthetic devices and services that are medically necessary and prescribed by your doctor, podiatrist, dentist, or non-physician medical provider. This includes implanted hearing devices, breast prosthesis/mastectomy bras, compression burn garments and prosthetics to restore function or replace a body part, or to support a weakened or deformed body part.

**Ostomy and urological supplies**

CCHP covers ostomy bags, urinary catheters, draining bags, irrigation supplies and adhesives. This does not include supplies that are for comfort, convenience or luxury equipment or features.

**Physical therapy**

CCHP covers medically necessary physical therapy services, including physical therapy
evaluation, treatment planning, treatment, instruction, consultative services and application of topical medications.

**Pulmonary rehabilitation**
CCHP covers pulmonary rehabilitation that is medically necessary and prescribed by a doctor.

**Skilled nursing facility services**
CCHP covers skilled nursing facility services as medically necessary if you are disabled and need a high level of care. These services include room and board in a licensed facility with skilled nursing care on a 24-hour per day basis.

**Speech therapy**
CCHP covers speech therapy that is medically necessary. A provider referral for speech therapy services is needed for an initial visit and up to six (6) follow-up visits (or seven (7) visits total). CCHP may pre-approve (prior authorize) additional services as medically necessary.

**Transgender services**
CCHP covers transgender services (gender-affirming services) as a benefit when they are medically necessary or when the services meet the criteria for reconstructive surgery.

**Clinical trials**
CCHP covers routine patient care costs for patients accepted into Phase I, Phase II, Phase III or Phase IV clinical trials if it is related to the prevention, detection or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening conditions and if the study meets all requirements under Health and Safety Code 1370.6(d)(1). Medi-Cal Rx, a Medi-Cal FFS program, covers most outpatient prescription drugs. Read the “Outpatient prescription drugs” section later in this chapter for more information.

**Laboratory and radiology services**
CCHP covers outpatient and inpatient laboratory and X-ray services when medically necessary. Various advanced imaging procedures, such as CT scans, MRI and PET scans, are covered based on medical necessity.
Preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management

The plan covers:

- Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices recommended vaccines
- Family planning services
- American Academy of Pediatrics Bright Futures recommendations (https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/periodicity_schedule.pdf)
- Asthma prevention services
- Preventive services for women recommended by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- Help to quit smoking, also called smoking cessation services
- United States Preventive Services Task Force Grade A and B recommended preventive services

Family planning services are provided to members of childbearing age to enable them to determine the number and spacing of children. These services include all methods of birth control approved by the FDA. CCHP’s PCP and OB/GYN specialists are available for family planning services.

For family planning services, you may also choose a Medi-Cal doctor or clinic not connected with CCHP without having to get pre-approval (prior authorization) from CCHP. Services from an out-of-network provider not related to family planning may not be covered. To learn more, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Read Chapter 5: Child and youth well care for preventive care information for youth 20 years old and younger.

Diabetes Prevention Program

The Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) is an evidence-based lifestyle change program. This 12-month program is focused on lifestyle changes and designed to prevent or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes among individuals diagnosed with prediabetes. Members who meet criteria may qualify for a second year. The program provides education and group support. Techniques include, but are not limited to:

- Providing a peer coach
- Teaching self-monitoring and problem solving
- Providing encouragement and feedback
- Providing informational materials to support goals
- Tracking routine weigh-ins to help accomplish goals
Members must meet program eligibility requirements to join DPP. Call Inspiring Communities at (510) 609-6875 to learn more about the program and eligibility.

Reconstructive services

CCHP covers surgery to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body to improve or create a normal appearance to the extent possible. Abnormal structures of the body are those caused by congenital defects, developmental abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors, disease, or breast reconstruction after a mastectomy. Some limitations and exceptions may apply.

Substance use disorder screening services

The plan covers:

- Alcohol misuse screenings and illicit-drug screenings

Go to “Substance use disorder treatment services” later in this chapter for treatment coverage through the county.

Vision benefits

The plan covers:

- Routine eye exam once every 24 months; Additional or more frequent eye exams are covered if medically necessary for members, such as those with diabetes.

- Eyeglasses (frames and lenses) once every 24 months; when you have a valid prescription.

- Replacement eyeglasses within 24 months if you have a change in prescription or your eyeglasses are lost, stolen, or broken (and cannot be fixed), and it was not your fault. You must give us a note that tells us how your eyeglasses were lost, stolen, or broken.

- Low vision devices for those with vision impairment that is not correctable by standard glasses, contact lenses, medicine, or surgery that interferes with a person’s ability to perform everyday activities (i.e., age-related macular degeneration).

- Medically necessary Contact Lenses
Contact lens testing and contact lenses may be covered if the use of eyeglasses is not possible due to eye disease or condition (i.e., missing an ear). Medical conditions that qualify for special contact lenses include, but are not limited to, aniridia, aphakia, and keratoconus.

Transportation benefits for situations that are not emergencies

You are entitled to medical transportation if you have medical needs that do not allow you to use a car, bus or taxi to your appointments. Medical transportation can be provided for covered services and Medi-Cal covered pharmacy appointments. If you need medical transportation, you can request this by speaking to your doctor, dentist, podiatrist, or mental health or substance use disorder provider. Your provider will decide the correct type of transportation to meet your needs. If they find that you need medical transportation, they will prescribe it by completing a form and submitting it to CCHP. Once approved, the approval is good for 12 months depending on the medical need. Additionally, there are no limits for how many rides you can get. Your doctor will need to reassess your medical need for medical transportation and re-approve every 12 months.

Medical transportation is an ambulance, litter van, wheelchair van or air transport. CCHP allows the lowest cost medical transportation for your medical needs when you need a ride to your appointment. That means, for example, if you can physically or medically be transported by a wheelchair van, CCHP will not pay for an ambulance. You are only entitled to air transport if your medical condition makes any form of ground transportation impossible.

Medical transportation must be used when:

- It is physically or medically needed as determined with a written authorization by a doctor or other provider because you are not able to physically or medically able to use a bus, taxi, car or van to get to your appointment.

- You need help from the driver to and from your residence, vehicle or place of treatment due to a physical or mental disability.

To ask for medical transportation that your doctor has prescribed for non-urgent (routine) appointments, please call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) or 1-855-222-1218 at least 7 – 10 business days (Monday-Friday) before your appointment. For urgent appointments, please call as soon as possible. Please have your member ID
card ready when you call.

**Limits of medical transportation:** CCHP provides the lowest cost medical transportation that meets your medical needs to the closest provider from your home where an appointment is available. Medical transportation will not be provided if the service is not covered by Medi-Cal. If the appointment type is covered by Medi-Cal but not through the health plan, CCHP will help you schedule your transportation. A list of covered services is in this Member Handbook. Transportation is not covered outside of the network or service area unless pre-authorized by CCHP. For more information or to ask for medical transportation, please call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) or 1-855-222-1218.

**Cost to member:** There is no cost when transportation is arranged by CCHP.

**How to get non-medical transportation**

Your benefits include getting a ride to your appointments when the appointment is for a Medi-Cal covered service and you do not have any access to transportation. You can get a ride, at no cost to you, when you have tried all other ways to get transportation and are:

- Traveling to and from an appointment for a Medi-Cal service authorized by your provider; or
- Picking up prescriptions and medical supplies

CCHP allows you to use a car, taxi, bus or other public/private way of getting to your medical appointment for Medi-Cal-covered services. CCHP will cover the lowest cost of non-medical transportation type that meets your needs. Sometimes, CCHP can give reimbursement for rides in a private vehicle that you arrange. This must be approved by CCHP before you get the ride, and you must tell us why you cannot get a ride any other way, like the bus. You can tell us by calling us. You cannot drive yourself and be reimbursed.

Mileage reimbursement requires all of the following:

- The driver’s license of the driver
- The vehicle registration of the driver
- Proof of car insurance for the driver

To request a ride for services that have been authorized, call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) or 1-855-222-1218 at least 5 – 7 business days (Monday-Friday) before your
appointment or call as soon as you can when you have an urgent appointment. Please have your member ID card ready when you call.

Note: American Indians may contact their local Indian Health Clinic to request non-medical transportation.

**Limits of non-medical transportation:** CCHP provides the lowest cost non-medical transportation that meets your needs to the closest provider from your home where an appointment is available. Members cannot drive themselves or be reimbursed directly. For more information, please call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) or 1-855-222-1218.

**Non-medical transportation does not apply if:**

- An ambulance, litter van, wheelchair van, or other form of medical transportation is medically needed to get to a Medi-Cal covered service.
- You need assistance from the driver to and from the residence, vehicle or place of treatment due to a physical or medical condition.
- You are in a wheelchair and are unable to move in and out of the vehicle without help from the driver.
- The service is not covered by Medi-Cal.

**Cost to member:** There is no cost when non-medical transportation is arranged by CCHP.

**Travel expenses:** In certain instances, CCHP may cover travel expenses such as meals, hotel stays, and other related expenses if you have to travel for doctor’s appointments that are not available near your home. This can also be covered for an accompanying attendant and a major organ transplant donor, if applicable. You need to request pre-approval (prior authorization) for these services by contacting CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) or 1-855-222-1218.

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**Other CCHP covered benefits and programs**

**Long-term care services and supports**

CCHP covers these long-term care benefits for members who qualify:

- Long-term care facility services as approved by CCHP
- Skilled nursing facility services as approved by CCHP
If you qualify for long-term care services, CCHP will make sure you are placed in a health care facility that provides the level of care most appropriate to your medical needs.

If you have questions about long-term care services, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

**Basic care management**

CCHP will help coordinate and manage your health care needs and services at no cost to you. CCHP will coordinate your health care services to help ensure that you receive all medically necessary services, including prescription drugs, and behavioral health care services, even if those services are covered by another program and not CCHP. This includes care coordination across settings, such as if you need hospitalization and are discharged to your home or a skilled nursing facility.

If you have questions or concerns about your health or the health of your child, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

**Enhanced Care Management**

CCHP covers Enhanced Care Management (ECM) services for members with highly complex needs. ECM is a benefit that provides extra services to help you get the care you need to stay healthy. It coordinates the care you get from different doctors. ECM helps coordinate primary care, acute care, behavioral health, developmental, oral health, community-based long-term services and supports (LTSS), and referrals to available community resources.

If you qualify, you may be contacted about ECM services. You can also call CCHP to find out if and when you can receive ECM. Or talk to your health care provider who can find out if you qualify for ECM and when and how you can receive it.

**Covered ECM services**

If you qualify for ECM, you will have your own care team, including a Lead Care Manager. This person will talk to you and your doctors, specialists, pharmacists, case managers, social services providers and others to make sure everyone works together to get you the care you need. A Lead Care Manager can also help you find and apply for other services in your community. ECM includes:

- Outreach and engagement
- Comprehensive assessment and care management
- Enhanced coordination of care

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Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at [www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org](http://www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org).
- Health promotion
- Comprehensive transitional care
- Member and family support services
- Coordination and referral to community and social supports

To find out if ECM may be right for you, talk to your CCHP representative or health care provider.

**Cost to member**

There is no cost to the member for ECM services.

**Community Supports**

Community Supports may be available under your Individualized Care Plan. Community Supports are medically appropriate and cost-effective alternative services or settings to those covered under the Medi-Cal State Plan. These services are optional for Members to receive. If you qualify, these services may help you live more independently. They do not replace benefits that you already get under Medi-Cal. Examples of Community Supports that CCHP plans to offer include: medically-supportive food/meals or medically-tailored meals, asthma home remediation, recuperative care (medical respite), short-term post-hospitalization housing, housing transition navigation services, housing tenancy and sustaining services, and housing deposits. A short description of these services and the eligible population follow. Detailed eligibility criteria and exclusions for each of these services is available from CCHP upon request. If you need help or would like to find out what Community Supports may be available for you, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) or call your health care provider.

**A. Medically Tailored Meals / Medically-Supportive Food**

Poor nutrition can lead to poor health, especially for members with chronic conditions. Meals designed by dietitians can help these members reach their nutrition goals at critical times to help them regain and maintain their health.

This service will initially be limited to members who have poorly controlled diabetes. These members have poorly controlled diabetes for at least six (6) months, even after they have received education about diet, lifestyle, and medication. Members who get this service will agree to enroll in Enhanced Care Management or another case management program if appropriate and eligible. Eventually, this service will expand to members with other chronic conditions. This includes, but is not limited to congestive heart failure and chronic kidney
disease. CCHP will also expand this service to members with certain challenging life circumstances. This includes members who can benefit from this service after leaving the hospital or skilled nursing facility to go home. This also includes members with conditions that make it difficult for them to care for themselves.

Members who are not eligible for this program include:
- Members currently in another medically tailored meals / medical-supportive foods program.
- Members who do not have access to food storage or preparation.
- Members in a skilled nursing facility (SNF)
- Members in hospice.

Talk to your case manager, PCP, or other provider about getting a referral to enroll in this service. You can also call CCHP Member Services, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

**B. Asthma Home Remediation**

Members with poorly controlled asthma may have asthma triggers in their home removed or reduced. Physical changes are made to the home environment to ensure the health and safety of the member. The changes enable these members to function in the home safely. Without these changes, the member’s asthma attacks can result in the need for emergency services or hospitalization.

Examples of environmental asthma trigger remediation include, but are not limited to:
- Allergen-impermeable mattress and pillow dustcovers
- High-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtered vacuums
- Integrated pest management (IPM) services
- Dehumidifiers
- Air filters
- Other moisture-controlling interventions
- Minor mold removal and remediation services
- Ventilation improvements
- Asthma-friendly cleaning products and supplies
- Other interventions identified to be medically appropriate and cost-effective

Members with poorly controlled asthma and stable housing are eligible for the service. Members have environmental asthma triggers identified through a home visit, and these triggers can be reduced or removed. Members agree to complete asthma education, including proper use of asthma medication.
Talk to your case manager, PCP, or other provider about getting a referral to enroll in this service. You can also call CCHP Member Services, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

C. Recuperative Care (Medical Respite)

Recuperative Care is also referred to as medical respite care. It is short-term residential care primarily used for individuals who are experiencing homelessness or those with unstable living situations, who are not ill enough to be in a hospital, but are too ill or frail to recover from an illness (physical or behavioral health) or injury in their usual living environment. An extended stay in a recovery care setting allows individuals to continue their recovery and receive post-discharge treatment while getting access to primary care, behavioral health services, case management, and other supportive social services (e.g., transportation, food, and housing).

At a minimum, the service will include interim housing with a bed and meals and ongoing monitoring of the individual’s ongoing medical or behavioral health condition (e.g., monitoring of vital signs, assessments, wound care, medication monitoring).

This service is currently limited to adult members living in East County, who receive care at Sutter Delta Medical Center in Antioch. The members must:

- Be hospitalized or at risk of hospitalization at Sutter Delta (e.g., in the emergency department at Sutter Delta) or would be harmed if outpatient treatment that the member needs is interrupted or delayed
- Not be medical appropriate for a skilled nursing facility
- Be able to live independently (e.g., does not require 24/7 care and supervision, not appropriate for an Adult Residential Facility (ARF), etc.)
- Be experiencing homelessness or lack of adequate housing to support recovery
- Have a defined home health skilled need that is appropriate for respite that can be effectively addressed in six (6) weeks or less (e.g, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, or wound care)
- Be medically appropriate for respite

Talk to your case manager, PCP, or other provider about getting a referral to enroll in this service. You can also call CCHP Member Services, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

D. Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing

Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing helps members experiencing homelessness who have high medical or behavioral health needs. This service
gives the opportunity for these members to continue their medical, psychiatric, or substance use disorder recovery in a housed setting with necessary supports to help with their recovery immediately after exiting a hospital. This service also enables these members to receive necessary care, case management, and has them begin to access other housing supports, such as Housing Transition Navigation.

This service is currently limited to adult members living in East County, who receive care at Sutter Delta Medical Center in Antioch. The members must:

- Be hospitalized or at risk of hospitalization at Sutter Delta (e.g., in the emergency department at Sutter Delta)
- Be experiencing homelessness
- Have high medical or behavioral health needs
- Not be medical appropriate for a skilled nursing facility or respite
- Be able to benefit from ongoing supports for recuperation and recovery, and other housing supports
- Agree to Housing Transition Navigation Services support
- Agree to and enroll in Enhanced Care Management or another case management program if appropriate and eligible
- Not have financial means to go elsewhere (e.g., motel, hotel, SRO, etc)
- Not be receiving duplicate support from other local, state, or federally funded program
- Not have previously received this service, where they did not cooperate in good faith with Housing Transition Navigation Services and Housing and Tenancy Sustaining Services

Talk to your case manager, PCP, or other provider about getting a referral to enroll in this service. You can also call CCHP Member Services, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

E. Housing Transition Navigation Services

Housing Transition Navigation Services helps members with obtaining housing. It includes screenings, development of housing support plans, help with searches for and securing housing, identifying and securing financial resources for housing, communicating with landlords, helping with the move, and more. Services are based on the member's needs documented in the individualized housing support plan.

To be eligible, members must:

- Be experiencing or at risk of homelessness
\begin{itemize}
  \item Be enrolled in Enhanced Care Management or another case management program AND
    \begin{itemize}
      \item Be currently within an acute care setting or post-acute setting (e.g., skilled nursing facility (SNF), respite, post-hospitalization stabilizing housing, etc)
    \end{itemize}
  \item OR
    \begin{itemize}
      \item Have a chronic condition sensitive to housing (e.g., diabetes, congestive heart failure, cancer, end-stage liver disease, end-stage kidney disease, asthma / chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, substance use disorder, and/or serious mental illness) with at least one hospitalization or two emergency department visits related to worsening these chronic conditions in the past 24 months
    \end{itemize}
  \item Not be receiving duplicate support from other local, state, or federally funded program
\end{itemize}

Talk to your case manager, PCP, or other provider about getting a referral to enroll in this service. You can also call CCHP Member Services, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

F. Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services

This service provides tenancy and sustaining services, with a goal of maintaining safe and stable tenancy once housing is secured. Services include identification, education, and intervention surrounding behaviors and needs that may jeopardize housing, help with finances and landlord or neighbor disputes, health and safety visits, and more. Services are based on the member’s needs documented in the individualized housing support plan.

To be eligible, members must:
\begin{itemize}
  \item Be at risk of homelessness
  \item Be enrolled in Enhanced Care Management or another case management program AND
    \begin{itemize}
      \item Be currently within an acute care setting or post-acute setting (e.g., skilled nursing facility (SNF), respite, post-hospitalization stabilizing housing, etc)
    \end{itemize}
  \item OR
    \begin{itemize}
      \item Have a chronic condition sensitive to housing (e.g., diabetes, congestive heart failure, cancer, end-stage liver disease, end-stage kidney disease, asthma / chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, substance use disorder, and/or serious mental illness) with at least one hospitalization or two emergency department visits related to worsening these chronic conditions in the past 24 months
    \end{itemize}
\end{itemize}
one hospitalization or two emergency department visits related to worsening these chronic conditions in the past 24 months

- Not have previously received this service, unless good cause is shown as to why additional services would be beneficial and that the member did not lose previous housing due to unwillingness to cooperate in good faith with necessary actions required for this service
- Not be receiving duplicate support from other local, state, or federally funded program

Talk to your case manager, PCP, or other provider about getting a referral to enroll in this service. You can also call CCHP Member Services, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

G. Housing Deposits

This service assists with identifying, coordinating, securing, or funding one-time services and modifications needed to enable a person to establish a basic household. It does not include room and board or payment of ongoing rental costs. Housing deposits may include:

- Security deposits required to obtain or lease an apartment or home
- Set-up fees / deposits for utilities or service access
- First month coverage of utilities Including, but not limited to telephone, gas, electricity, heating, and water
- First and last month’s rent
- Services necessary for the member’s health and safety (e.g., one-time cleaning, getting rid of pests)
- Goods such as air conditioner or heater, and other medically-necessary adaptive aids and services for the member’s health and safety in the home (e.g., hospital beds, Hoyer lifts, air filters, specialized cleaning or pest control supplies)

Services are based on the member’s needs documented in the individualized housing support plan.

Housing Deposits are available once in a member’s lifetime. It can only be approved an additional time with documentation as to what conditions have changed showing why providing this service a second time would be more successful than the first time.

These services must be identified as reasonable and necessary in the member’s individualized housing support plan and available only if the member is unable to meet the expense.
Members must also receive Housing Transition Navigation Services in conjunction with this service. At a minimum, members must have the tenant screening, housing assessment, and individualized housing support plan.

Talk to your case manager, PCP, or other provider about getting a referral to enroll in this service. You can also call CCHP Member Services, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Major Organ Transplant

Transplants for children under age 21

State law requires children who need transplants to be referred to the California Children’s Services (CCS) program to decide if the child is eligible for CCS. If the child is eligible for CCS, CCS will cover the costs for the transplant and related services. If the child is not eligible for CCS, then CCHP will refer the child to a qualified transplant center for evaluation. If the transplant center confirms the transplant would be needed and safe, CCHP will cover the transplant and related services.

Transplants for adults age 21 and older

If your doctor decides you may need a major organ transplant, CCHP will refer you to a qualified transplant center for an evaluation. If the transplant center confirms a transplant is needed and safe for your medical condition, CCHP will cover the transplant and other related services.

The following major organ transplants covered by CCHP include but are not limited to:

- Bone marrow
- Heart
- Heart/Lung
- Kidney
- Kidney/Pancreas
- Liver
- Liver/Small bowel
- Lung
- Pancreas
- Small bowel

Transportation and travel expenses

You may be able to receive transportation, meals, lodging and other costs such as parking, tolls, etc. if you or your family needs assistance to get to a medical appointment related to a CCS-eligible condition and there is no other available resource. You should call CCHP and request approval (authorization) before you pay out of pocket for transportation meals and lodging since CCHP does provide non-medical and non-emergency medical transportation as noted in benefits and services. If your
transportation or travel expenses are determined to be necessary and CCHP verifies that you attempted to get transportation through CCHP, you can receive reimbursement from CCHP and we must reimburse you within 60 calendar days of you submitting the required receipts and documentation for transportation expenses.

Other Medi-Cal programs and services

Other services you can get through Fee-For-Service (FFS) Medi-Cal or other Medi-Cal programs

Sometimes CCHP does not cover services, but you can still get them through FFS Medi-Cal or other Medi-Cal programs. CCHP will coordinate with other programs to ensure that you receive all medically necessary services, even if those services are covered by another program and not CCHP. This section lists some of these services. To learn more, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Outpatient prescription drugs

*Prescription drugs covered by Medi-Cal Rx*

Prescription drugs given by a pharmacy are covered by Medi-Cal Rx, a Medi-Cal FFS program. Some drugs given by a provider in an office or clinic may be covered by CCHP. Your provider can prescribe you drugs that are on the Medi-Cal Rx Contract Drugs List.

Sometimes, a drug is needed and is not on the Contract Drug List. These drugs will need to be approved before they can be filled at the pharmacy. Medi-Cal Rx will review and decide these requests within 24 hours.

- A pharmacist at your outpatient pharmacy may give you a 72-hour emergency supply if they think you need it. Medi-Cal Rx will pay for the emergency medication supply given by an outpatient pharmacy.
- Medi-Cal Rx may say no to a non-emergency request. If they say no, they will send you a letter to tell you why. They will tell you what your choices are. Go to the “Complaints” section in Chapter 6 Reporting and solving problems for more information.

To find out if a drug is on the Contract Drug List or to get a copy of the Contract Drug List, call Medi-Cal Rx at 800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711), visit the Medi-Cal Rx website at [https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/](https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/).
**Pharmacies**

If you are filling or refilling a prescription, you must get your prescribed drugs from a pharmacy that works with Medi-Cal Rx. You can find a list of pharmacies that work with Medi-Cal Rx in the Medi-Cal Rx Pharmacy Directory at [https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/](https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/). You can also find a pharmacy near you or a pharmacy that can mail your prescription to you by calling Medi-Cal Rx at 800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711).

Once you choose a pharmacy, take your prescription to the pharmacy. Your provider may also send it to the pharmacy for you. Give the pharmacy your prescription with your Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC). Make sure the pharmacy knows about all medications you are taking and any allergies you have. If you have any questions about your prescription, make sure you ask the pharmacist.

Members may also receive transportation services from CCHP to get to pharmacies. To learn more about transportation services, read “Transportation benefits for situations that are not emergencies” in this handbook.

**Specialty mental health services**

Some mental health services are provided by county mental health plans instead of CCHP. These include specialty mental health services (SMHS) for Medi-Cal members who meet criteria for SMHS. SMHS may include these outpatient, residential and inpatient services:

**Outpatient services:**

- Mental health services
- Medication support services
- Day treatment intensive services
- Day rehabilitation services
- Crisis intervention services
- Crisis stabilization services
- Targeted case management services
- Therapeutic behavioral services (covered for members under 21 years old)
- Intensive care coordination (ICC) (covered for members under 21 years old)
- Intensive home-based services (IHBS) (covered for members under 21 years old)
- Therapeutic foster care (TFC) (covered for members under 21 years old)
Benefits and services

Residential services:

- Adult residential treatment services
- Crisis residential treatment services

Inpatient services:

- Acute psychiatric inpatient hospital services
- Psychiatric inpatient hospital professional services
- Psychiatric health facility services

To learn more about specialty mental health services, the county mental health plan provides, you can call your county mental health plan. To find all counties’ toll-free telephone numbers online, visit dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/MHPContactList.aspx. If CCHP determines that you will need services from the county mental health plan, CCHP will help you connect with the county mental health plan services.

Substance use disorder treatment services

The county provides substance use disorder services to Medi-Cal members who meet criteria for these services. Members who are identified for substance use disorder treatment services are referred to their county department for treatment. To find all counties’ telephone numbers online, visit https://dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/SUD_County_Access_Lines.aspx.

For more information about the county’s substance use disorder treatment services, call the County’s 24/7 toll-free Behavioral Health Access Line at 1-800-846-1652.

Outpatient substance use disorder services covered includes:

- Screening and brief intervention
  Prevention Care once per year for youth and adults with their assigned CCHP primary care provider (PCP).

- Outpatient services
  Community-based services (up to nine (9) hours per week) include group and individual counseling, patient education, crises assistance and case management for youth and adults

- Intensive outpatient services
  Intensive community based service (up to 19 hours per week or up to 30 hours
Benefits and services

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
Some patients may need to take medication to get extra help with their recovery. Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services include the ordering, prescribing, administering, and monitoring of all medications for substance use disorder. MAT also includes case management, and group and individual counseling. The service is available for youth and adults.

Withdrawal Management (detox)
Non-Medical 24 hour detox and moderate withdrawal services for up to five (5) days. The service is available for adults only.

Residential treatment (with pre-approval)
Short-term residential (24/7 live-in) services include individual and group counseling, patient education, and case management. The service is available for youth and adults.

Recovery Support Services
Support services include relapse prevention, recovery coaching, recovery support, builds self-management skills. Available for adults after completion of treatment.

Dental services
Medi-Cal Dental Program is the same as Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medi-Cal for your dental services. Before you get dental services, you must show your BIC to the dental provider and make sure the provider takes FFS Dental.

Medi-Cal Dental covers some dental services, including:

- Diagnostic and preventive dental hygiene (such as examinations, X-rays and teeth cleanings)
- Emergency services for pain control
- Tooth extractions
- Fillings
- Root canal treatments (anterior/posterior)
- Crowns (prefabricated/laboratory)
- Scaling and root planing
- Complete and partial dentures
- Orthodontics for children who qualify
- Topical fluoride

If you have questions or want to learn more about dental services, call the Medi-Cal Dental Program at 1-800-322-6384 (TTY 1-800-735-2922 or 711). You may also visit www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.
the Medi-Cal Dental Program website at https://www.dental.dhcs.ca.gov or https://smilecalifornia.org/.

**California Children’s Services (CCS)**

CCS is a Medi-Cal program that treats children under 21 years of age with certain health conditions, diseases or chronic health problems and who meet the CCS program rules. If CCHP or your PCP believes your child has a CCS-eligible condition, they will be referred to the CCS county program to be assessed for eligibility.

County CCS program staff will decide if your child qualifies for CCS services. CCHP does not decide CCS eligibility. If your child qualifies to get this type of care, CCS providers will treat him or her for the CCS-eligible condition. CCHP will continue to cover the types of service that do not have to do with the CCS condition such as physicals, vaccines and well-child checkups.

CCHP does not cover services provided by the CCS program. For CCS to cover these services, CCS must approve the provider, services and equipment.

CCS does not cover all health conditions. CCS covers most health conditions that physically disable or that need to be treated with medicines, surgery or rehabilitation (rehab). CCS covers children with health conditions such as:

- Congenital heart disease
- Cancers
- Tumors
- Hemophilia
- Sickle cell anemia
- Thyroid problems
- Diabetes
- Serious chronic kidney problems
- Liver disease
- Intestinal disease
- Cleft lip/palate
- Spina bifida
- Hearing loss
- Cataracts
- Cerebral palsy
- Seizures under certain circumstances
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Muscular dystrophy
- AIDS
- Severe head, brain or spinal cord injuries
- Severe burns
- Severely crooked teeth

Medi-Cal pays for CCS services. If your child is not eligible for CCS program services, they will keep getting medically necessary care from CCHP.
Services you cannot get through CCHP or Medi-Cal

There are some services that neither CCHP nor Medi-Cal will cover, including, but not limited to:

- In vitro fertilization (IVF), including but not limited to infertility studies or procedures to diagnose or treat infertility
- Fertility preservation
- Experimental services
- Home modifications
- Vehicle modifications
- Cosmetic surgery

CCHP may cover a non-benefit if medical necessity is established. Your provider must submit a Prior Authorization to CCHP’s Utilization Management (UM) Department with the reasons why the non-benefit is medically needed.

To learn more call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Evaluation of new and existing technologies

As CCHP moves into the future, new medical technologies will bring new ways to treat patients. In evaluating these new technologies, evidence will be primary to CCHP’s determinations. CCHP may also consider other complexities including social, legal, ethical and economic issues.

New payment methods, cost controls and advances in technology have led to shorter hospital stays and increased use of alternative or subacute settings for care. One of these alternatives for patients who need nursing care is a Skilled Nursing Facility. Other types of subacute care are covered to the same extent as described in this booklet for Skilled Nursing Facility Care. If you have any questions about CCHP’s subacute care policy, please call Member Services at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).
5. Child and youth well care

Child and youth members under 21 years old can get special health services as soon as they are enrolled. This makes sure they get the right preventive, dental, mental health and developmental and specialty services. This chapter explains these services.

Pediatric services (Children under age 21)

Members under 21 years old are covered for needed care. The following list includes medically necessary services to treat or ameliorate defects and physical or mental diagnoses. Covered services include but are not limited to the list below:

- Well-child visits and teen check-ups (Important visits children need)
- Immunizations (shots)
- Behavioral health assessment and treatment
- Mental health evaluation and treatment, including individual, group and family psychotherapy (specialty mental health services are covered by the county)
- Lab tests, including blood lead poisoning screening
- Health and preventive education
- Vision services
- Dental services (covered under Medi-Cal Dental)
- Hearing services (covered by CCS for children who qualify. CCHP will cover services for children who do not qualify for CCS)

These services are called Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services. EPSDT services that are recommended by pediatricians’ Bright Futures guidelines (https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/periodicity_schedule.pdf) to help you or your child stay healthy are covered at no cost to you.
Well-child health check-ups and preventive care

Preventive care includes regular health check-ups, screenings to help your doctor find problems early, and counseling services to detect illnesses, diseases, or medical conditions before they cause problems. Regular check-ups help you or your child’s doctor look for any problems. Problems can include medical, dental, vision, hearing, mental health, and any substance use (drug) disorders. CCHP covers check-ups to screen for problems (including blood lead level assessment) any time there is a need for them, even if it is not during your or your child’s regular check-up.

Preventive care also includes shots you or your child need. CCHP must make sure that all enrolled children get needed shots at the time of any health care visit. Preventive care services and screenings are available at no cost and without pre-approval (prior authorization).

Your child should get check-ups at these ages:

- 2-4 days after birth
- 1 month
- 2 months
- 4 months
- 6 months
- 9 months
- 12 months
- 15 months
- 18 months
- 24 months
- 30 months
- Once a year from 3 to 20 years old

Well-child health check-ups include:

- A complete history and head-to-toe physical exam
- Age-appropriate shots (California follows the American Academy of Pediatrics Bright Futures Periodicity schedule [https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/periodicity_schedule.pdf](https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/periodicity_schedule.pdf))
- Lab tests, including blood lead poisoning screening
- Health education
- Vision and hearing screening
- Oral health screening
- Behavioral health assessment

When a physical problem or mental health issue is found during a check-up or screening, there may be care that can fix or help the problem. If the care is medically necessary and CCHP is responsible for paying for the care, then CCHP covers the care.
at no cost to you. These services include:

- Doctor, nurse practitioner and hospital care
- Shots to keep you healthy
- Physical, speech/language and occupational therapies
- Home health services, which could be medical equipment, supplies and appliances
- Treatment for vision problems, including eyeglasses
- Treatment for hearing problems, including hearing aids when they are not covered by CCS
- Behavioral Health Treatment for autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities
- Case management and health education
- Reconstructive surgery, which is surgery to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body caused by congenital defects, developmental abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors or disease to improve function or create a normal appearance

Blood lead poisoning screening

All children enrolled in CCHP should get blood lead poisoning screening at 12 and 24 months or between the ages of 36 and 72 months if they were not tested earlier.

Help getting child and youth well care services

CCHP will help members under 21 years old and their families get the services they need. A CCHP care coordinator can:

- Tell you about available services
- Help find network providers or out-of-network providers, when needed
- Help make appointments
- Arrange medical transportation so children can get to their appointments
- Help coordinate care for services that are available through FFS Medi-Cal, such as:
  - Treatment and rehabilitative services for mental health and substance use disorders
  - Treatment for dental issues, including orthodontics
Other services you can get through Fee-For-Service (FFS) Medi-Cal or other programs

Dental check-ups

Keep your baby’s gums clean by gently wiping the gums with a washcloth every day. At about four to six months, “teething” will begin as the baby teeth start to come in. You should make an appointment for your child’s first dental visit as soon as their first tooth comes in or by their first birthday, whichever comes first.

The following Medi-Cal dental services are free or low-cost services for:

Babies ages 1 to 4

- Baby’s first dental visit
- Baby’s first dental exam
- Dental exams (every 6 months; every 3 months from birth to age 3)
- X-rays
- Teeth cleaning (every 6 months)
- Fluoride varnish (every 6 months)
- Fillings
- Tooth removal
- Emergency services
- Outpatient services
- *Sedation (if medically necessary)

Kids ages 5-12

- Dental exams (every 6 months)
- X-rays
- Fluoride varnish (every 6 months)
- Teeth cleaning (every 6 months)
- Molar sealants
- Fillings
- Root canals
- Emergency services
- Outpatient services
- *Sedation (if medically necessary)

Kids ages 13-20

- Dental exams (every 6 months)
- X-rays
- Fluoride varnish (every 6 months)
- Teeth cleaning (every 6 months)
- Orthodontics (braces) for those who qualify
- Fillings
- Crowns
- Root canals
- Tooth removal
- Emergency services
- Outpatient services
- Sedation (if medically necessary)
*Sedation and general anesthesia should be considered when it is documented why local anesthesia is not appropriate or contraindicated, and the dental treatment is pre-approved or does not need pre-approval (prior authorization).

Contraindications include, but are not limited to:

- Physical, behavioral, developmental or emotional condition that prohibits the patient from responding to the provider’s attempts to perform treatment
- Extensive restorative or surgical procedures
- An uncooperative child
- An acute infection at an injection site
- Failure of a local anesthetic to control pain

If you have questions or want to learn more about dental services, call the Medi-Cal Dental Program at 1-800-322-6384 (TTY 1-800-735-2922 or 711). You may also visit the Medi-Cal Dental Program website at [https://smilecalifornia.org/](https://smilecalifornia.org/).

**Additional preventive education referral services**

If you are worried that your child is having a hard time taking part and learning at school, talk to your child’s Primary Care Doctor, teachers or administrators at the school. In addition to your medical benefits covered by CCHP, there are services that the school must provide to help your child learn and not fall behind.

Examples of services that may be provided to help your child learn include:

- Speech and Language Services
- Psychological Services
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Assistive Technology
- Social Work Services
- Counseling Services
- School Nurse Services
- Transportation to and from school

These services are provided by and paid for by the California Department of Education. Together with your child’s doctors and teachers, you can make a custom plan that will best help your child.

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at [www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org](http://www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org).
6. Reporting and solving problems

There are two ways to report and solve problems:

- A **complaint** (or **grievance**) is when you have a problem with CCHP or a provider, or with the health care or treatment you got from a provider
- An **appeal** is when you don’t agree with CCHP’s decision to change your services or to not cover them

You have the right to file grievances and appeals with CCHP to tell us about your problem. This does not take away any of your legal rights and remedies. We will not discriminate or retaliate against you for complaining to us. Letting us know about your problem will help us improve care for all members.

You should always contact CCHP first to let us know about your problem. Call us between Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). Tell us about your problem. If you have a clinically urgent issue, you can also reach our 24 Hour Nurse Advice Line at 1-877-661-6230 (press 1). (TTY 711). The 24 Hour Nurse Advice Line is open even on weekends and holidays.

You also have the option to fill out and submit an online grievance / appeal form, available at [www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org](http://www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org).

Or you can write about your complaint and either mail or fax it to:

Contra Costa Health Plan
Attn: Member Grievance / Appeal
595 Center Ave., Suite 100
Martinez, CA 94553
Fax: 925-313-6047

If your grievance or appeal is still not resolved after 30 days, or you are unhappy with the result, you can call the California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) and ask them to review your complaint or conduct an Independent Medical Review. You can call the DMHC at 1-888-466-2219 (TTY 1-877-688-9891 or 711) or visit the DMHC website for more information: [https://www.dmhc.ca.gov](https://www.dmhc.ca.gov).
The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Medi-Cal Managed Care Ombudsman can also help. They can help if you have problems joining, changing or leaving a health plan. They can also help if you moved and are having trouble getting your Medi-Cal transferred to your new county. You can call the Ombudsman Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at 1-888-452-8609.

You can also file a grievance with your county eligibility office about your Medi-Cal eligibility. If you are not sure who you can file your grievance with, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

To report incorrect information about your additional health insurance, please call Medi-Cal Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at 1-800-541-5555.

Complaints

A complaint (or grievance) is when you have a problem or are unhappy with the services you are receiving from CCHP or a provider. There is no time limit to file a complaint. You can file a complaint with CCHP at any time by phone, in writing or online.

- **By phone:** Call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) between Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. Give your health plan ID number, your name and the reason for your complaint.

- **By mail:** Call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) and ask to have a form sent to you. When you get the form, fill it out. Be sure to include your name, health plan ID number and the reason for your complaint. Tell us what happened and how we can help you.

  Mail the form to:
  Contra Costa Health Plan
  Member Appeals/Grievance Resolution Unit
  595 Center Ave, Suite 100
  Martinez, CA 94553

  Your doctor’s office will have complaint forms available.


  If you need help filing your complaint, we can help you. We can give you free language services. Call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).
Within 5 calendar days of getting your complaint, we will send you a letter telling you we got it. Within 30 days, we will send you another letter that tells you how we resolved your problem. If you call CCHP about a grievance that is not about health care coverage, medical necessity, or experimental or investigational treatment, and your grievance is resolved by the end of the next business day, you may not get a letter.

If you have an urgent matter involving a serious health concern, we will start an expedited (fast) review and provide you with a decision within 72 hours. To ask for an expedited review, call us at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). Within 72 hours of receiving your complaint, we will make a decision about how we will handle your complaint and whether we will expedite your complaint. If we determine that we will not expedite your complaint, we will let you know that we will resolve your complaint within 30 days. You may contact the DMHC directly for any reason, including if you believe your concern qualifies for expedited review, or CCHP does not respond to you within the 72-hour period.

Complaints related to Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefits are not subject to the CCHP grievance process or eligible for Independent Medical Review. Members can submit complaints about Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefits by calling 800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711) or going to https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/. However, complaints related to pharmacy benefits not subject to Medi-Cal Rx may be eligible for an Independent Medical Review. DMHC’s toll-free telephone number is 1-888-466-2219 and the TTY line is 1-877-688-9891. You can find the Independent Medical Review/Complaint form and instructions online at the DMHC’s website: https://www.dmhc.ca.gov/.

Appeals

An appeal is different from a complaint. An appeal is a request for us to review and change a decision we made about your service(s). If we sent you a Notice of Action (NOA) letter telling you that we are denying, delaying, changing or ending a service(s), and you do not agree with our decision, you can ask us for an appeal. Your PCP or other provider can also ask us for an appeal for you with your written permission.

You must ask for an appeal within 60 days from the date on the NOA you got from us. If we decided to reduce, suspend, or stop a service(s) you are getting now, you can continue getting that service(s) while you wait for your appeal to be decided. This is
called Aid Paid Pending. To receive Aid Paid Pending, you must ask us for an appeal within 10 days from the date on the NOA or before the date we said your service(s) will stop, whichever is later. When you request an appeal under these circumstances, the service(s) will continue.

You can file an appeal by phone, in writing or online:

- **By phone:** Call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) between Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. Give your name, health plan ID number and the service you are appealing.

- **By mail:** Call CCHP at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) and ask to have a form sent to you. When you get the form, fill it out. Be sure to include your name, health plan ID number and the service you are appealing.

Mail the form to:
Contra Costa Health Plan
Member Appeals/Grievance Resolution Unit
595 Center Ave, Suite 100
Martinez, CA 94553

Your doctor’s office will have appeal forms available.

- **Online:** Visit the CCHP website. Go to www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org.

If you need help asking for an appeal or with Aid Paid Pending, we can help you. We can give you free language services. Call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

Within 5 days of getting your appeal, we will send you a letter telling you we got it. Within 30 days, we will tell you our appeal decision and send you a Notice of Appeal Resolution (NAR) letter. If we do not provide you with our appeal decision within 30 days, you can request a State Hearing and an IMR with the DMHC. But if you ask for a State Hearing first, and the hearing has already happened, you cannot ask for an IMR. In this case, the State Hearing has final say.

If you or your doctor wants us to make a fast decision because the time it takes to decide your appeal would put your life, health or ability to function in danger, you can ask for an expedited (fast) review. To ask for an expedited review, call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711). We will make a decision within 72 hours of receiving your appeal.
What to do if you do not agree with an appeal decision

If you requested an appeal and got a NAR letter telling you we did not change our decision, or you never got a NAR letter and it has been past 30 days, you can:

- Ask for a **State Hearing** from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and a judge will review your case.
- File an Independent Medical Review/Complaint form with the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to have CCHP’s decision reviewed or ask for an **Independent Medical Review (IMR)** from the DMHC. During DMHC’s IMR, an outside doctor who is not part of CCHP will review your case. DMHC’s toll-free telephone number is 1-888-466-2219 and the TTY line is 1-877-688-9891. You can find the Independent Medical Review/Complaint form and instructions online at the DMHC’s website: [https://www.dmhc.ca.gov](https://www.dmhc.ca.gov).

You will not have to pay for a State Hearing or an IMR.

You are entitled to both a State Hearing and an IMR. But if you ask for a State Hearing first, and the hearing has already happened, you cannot ask for an IMR. In this case, the State Hearing has the final say.

The sections below have more information on how to ask for a State Hearing and an IMR.

Complaints and appeals related to Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefits are not handled by CCHP. You can submit complaints and appeals about Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefits by calling 800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711). However, complaints and appeals related to pharmacy benefits not subject to Medi-Cal Rx may be eligible for an Independent Medical Review.

If you do not agree with a decision related to your Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefit, you may ask for a State Hearing. **Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefit decisions are not subject to the IMR process with the DMHC.**
Complaints and Independent Medical Reviews (IMR) with the Department of Managed Health Care

An IMR is when an outside doctor who is not related to your health plan reviews your case. If you want an IMR, you must first file an appeal with CCHP. If you do not hear from your health plan within 30 calendar days, or if you are unhappy with your health plan’s decision, then you may request an IMR. You must ask for an IMR within 6 months from the date on the notice telling you of the appeal decision, but you only have 120 days to request a State Hearing so if you want an IMR and a State hearing file your complaint as soon as you can. Remember, if you ask for a State Hearing first, and the hearing has already happened, you cannot ask for an IMR. In this case, the State Hearing has the final say.

You may be able to get an IMR right away without filing an appeal first. This is in cases where your health concern is urgent, such as those involving a serious threat to your health.

If your complaint to DMHC does not qualify for an IMR, DMHC will still review your complaint to make sure CCHP made the correct decision when you appealed its denial of services. CCHP has to comply with DMHC’s IMR and review decisions.

Here is how to ask for an IMR.

The California Department of Managed Health Care is responsible for regulating health care service plans. If you have a grievance against your health plan, you should first telephone your health plan at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711) and use your health plan’s grievance process before contacting the department. Utilizing this grievance procedure does not prohibit any potential legal rights or remedies that may be available to you. If you need help with a grievance involving an emergency, a grievance that has not been satisfactorily resolved by your health plan, or a grievance that has remained unresolved for more than 30 days, you may call the department for assistance. You may also be eligible for an Independent Medical Review (IMR). If you are eligible for IMR, the IMR process will provide an impartial review of medical decisions made by a health plan related to the medical necessity of a proposed service or treatment, coverage decisions for treatments that are experimental or investigational in nature and payment disputes for emergency or urgent medical services. The department also has a toll-free telephone number (1-888-466-2219) and a TDD line (1-877-688-9891) for the hearing and speech impaired. The department’s internet website https://www.dmhc.ca.gov/ has complaint forms, IMR application forms and instructions online.
State Hearings

A State Hearing is a meeting with people from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). A judge will help to resolve your problem or tell you that we made the correct decision. You have the right to ask for a State Hearing if you have already asked for an appeal with us and you are still not happy with our decision, or if you did not get a decision on your appeal after 30 days.

You must ask for a State Hearing within 120 days from the date on our NAR letter. However, if we gave you Aid Paid Pending during your appeal, and you want it to continue until there is a decision on your State Hearing, you must ask for a State Hearing within 10 days of our NAR letter, or before the date we said your service(s) will stop, whichever is later. If you need help making sure Aid Paid Pending will continue until there is a final decision on your State Hearing, contact CCHP between Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm by calling 1-877-661-6230 (press 2). If you cannot hear or speak well, please call (TTY 711). Your PCP can ask for a State Hearing for you with your written permission.

Sometimes you can ask for a State Hearing without completing our appeal process.

For example, you can request a State Hearing without having to complete our appeal process, if we did not notify you correctly or on time about your service(s). This is called Deemed Exhaustion. Here are some examples of Deemed Exhaustion:

- We did not make a NOA letter available to you in your preferred language.
- We made a mistake that affects any of your rights.
- We did not give you a NOA letter.
- We made a mistake in our NAR letter.
- We did not decide your appeal within 30 days. We decided your case was urgent, but did not respond to your appeal within 72 hours.

You can ask for a State Hearing by phone or mail.

- **By phone:** Call the CDSS Public Response Unit at 1-800-952-5253 (TTY 1-800-952-8349 or 711).
- **By mail:** Fill out the form provided with your appeals resolution notice.
  Send it to:
  
  California Department of Social Services  
  State Hearings Division  
  P.O. Box 944243, MS 09-17-37  
  Sacramento, CA 94244-2430

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at [www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org](http://www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org).
If you need help asking for a State Hearing, we can help you. We can give you free language services. Call 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

At the hearing, you will give your side. We will give our side. It could take up to 90 days for the judge to decide your case. CCHP must follow what the judge decides.

If you want the CDSS to make a fast decision because the time it takes to have a State Hearing would put your life, health or ability to function fully in danger, you or your PCP can contact the CDSS and ask for an expedited (fast) State Hearing. CDSS must make a decision no later than 3 business days after it gets your complete case file from CCHP.

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**Fraud, waste and abuse**

If you suspect that a provider or a person who gets Medi-Cal has committed fraud, waste or abuse, it is your right to report it by calling the confidential toll-free number 1-800-822-6222 or submitting a complaint online at [https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/](https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/).

Provider fraud, waste and abuse includes:

- Falsifying medical records
- Prescribing more medication than is medically necessary
- Giving more health care services than medically necessary
- Billing for services that were not given
- Billing for professional services when the professional did not perform the service
- Offering free or discounted items and services to members in an effort to influence which provider is selected by the member
- Changing member’s primary care physician without the knowledge of the member

Fraud, waste and abuse by a person who gets benefits includes, but is not limited to:

- Lending, selling or giving a health plan ID card or Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC) to someone else
- Getting similar or the same treatments or medicines from more than one provider
- Going to an emergency room when it is not an emergency
- Using someone else’s Social Security number or health plan ID number
- Taking medical and non-medical transportation rides for non-healthcare
related services, for services not covered by Medi-Cal, or when you do not have a medical appointment or prescriptions to pick up.

To report fraud, waste and abuse, write down the name, address and ID number of the person who committed the fraud, waste or abuse. Give as much information as you can about the person, such as the phone number or the specialty if it is a provider. Give the dates of the events and a summary of exactly what happened.

Send your report to:

Contra Costa Health Plan Fraud Unit
595 Center Ave. Ste. 100
Martinez, CA 94553

Or call: Contra Costa Health Services 24 hour Compliance / Fraud Hotline at 1-800-304-9490
7.Rights and responsibilities

As a member of CCHP, you have certain rights and responsibilities. This chapter explains these rights and responsibilities. This chapter also includes legal notices that you have a right to as a member of CCHP.

Your rights

These are your rights as a member of CCHP:

- To be treated with respect and dignity, giving due consideration to your right to privacy and the need to maintain confidentiality of your medical information.
- To be provided with information about the plan and its services, including covered services, practitioners, and member rights and responsibilities.
- To receive fully translated written member information in your preferred language, including all grievance and appeals notices.
- To make recommendations about CCHP’s member rights and responsibilities policy.
- To be able to choose a primary care provider within CCHP’s network.
- To have timely access to network providers.
- To participate in decision making with providers regarding your own health care, including the right to refuse treatment.
- To voice grievances, either verbally or in writing, about the organization or the care you got.
- To know the medical reason for CCHP’s decision to deny, delay, terminate or change a request for medical care.
- To get care coordination.
- To ask for an appeal of decisions to deny, defer or limit services or benefits.
- To get no-cost interpreting services for your language.
- To get free legal help at your local legal aid office or other groups.
- To formulate advance directives.
- To ask for a State Hearing if a service or benefit is denied and you have
already filed an appeal with CCHP and are still not happy with the decision, or if you did not get a decision on your appeal after 30 days, including information on the circumstances under which an expedited hearing is possible.

- To disenroll from CCHP and change to another health plan in the county upon request.
- To access minor consent services.
- To get no-cost written member information in other formats (such as braille, large-size print, audio and accessible electronic formats) upon request and in a timely fashion appropriate for the format being requested and in accordance with Welfare & Institutions Code Section 14182 (b)(12).
- To be free from any form of restraint or seclusion used as a means of coercion, discipline, convenience or retaliation.
- To truthfully discuss information on available treatment options and alternatives, presented in a manner appropriate to your condition and ability to understand, regardless of cost or coverage.
- To have access to and get a copy of your medical records, and request that they be amended or corrected, as specified in 45 Code of Federal Regulations §164.524 and 164.526.
- Freedom to exercise these rights without adversely affecting how you are treated by CCHP, your providers or the State.
- To have access to family planning services, Freestanding Birth Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Indian Health Clinics, midwifery services, Rural Health Centers, sexually transmitted infection services and emergency services outside CCHP’s network pursuant to the federal law.

Your responsibilities

CCHP members have these responsibilities:

- The responsibility to provide complete and accurate information to the extent possible about past and present medical illnesses including medications and other related matters.
- The responsibility to follow the treatment plan and instructions agreed upon with your health care practitioner.
- The responsibility to ask questions regarding condition and treatment plans until clearly understood.
- The responsibility to keep scheduled appointments or to call at least 24 hours in advance to cancel.
- The responsibility to call in advance for prescription refills.
- The responsibility to be courteous and cooperative to people who provide health care services.
- The responsibility to actively participate in their health and the health of the member’s family. This means taking care of problems before they become serious, following provider’s instructions, taking all medications as prescribed, and participating in health programs that keep one well.
- The responsibility to understand their health problems and participate in developing mutually agreed-upon treatment goals, to the degree possible.
- The responsibility to supply information (to the extent possible) that the organization and its practitioners and providers need in order to provide care.

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**Notice of non-discrimination**

Discrimination is against the law. CCHP follows State and Federal civil rights laws. CCHP does not unlawfully discriminate, exclude people or treat them differently because of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation.

CCHP provides:

- Free aids and services to people with disabilities to help them communicate better, such as:
  - Qualified sign language interpreters
  - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats and other formats)
- Free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
  - Qualified interpreters
  - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact CCHP between Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, by calling 1-877-661-6230 (press 2). Or, if you cannot hear or speak well, please call (TTY 711).
How to file a grievance

If you believe that CCHP has failed to provide these services or unlawfully discriminated in another way on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation, you can file a grievance with CCHP’s Civil Rights Coordinator. You can file a grievance in writing, in person, or electronically:

- **By phone**: Contact between Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm by calling 1-877-661-6230 (press 2). Or, if you cannot hear or speak well, please call (TTY 711) or 711 to use the California Relay Service.

- **In writing**: Fill out a complaint form or write a letter and send it to:
  CCHP Civil Rights Coordinator
  Member Grievance Unit
  595 Center Avenue, Suite 100
  Martinez, CA 94553
  Or fax it to 1-925-313-6047

- **In person**: Visit your doctor’s office or CCHP and say you want to file a grievance.


**Office of Civil Rights – California Department of Health Care Services**

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the California Department of Health Care Services, Office of Civil Rights by phone, in writing or electronically:

- **By phone**: Call 916-440-7370. If you cannot speak or hear well, please call 711 (Telecommunications Relay Service).

- **In writing**: Fill out a complaint form or send a letter to:
  Deputy Director, Office of Civil Rights
  Department of Health Care Services
  Office of Civil Rights
  P.O. Box 997413, MS 0009
  Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

  Complaint forms are available at

Rights and responsibilities

Office of Civil Rights – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

If you believe you have been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex, you can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights by phone, in writing or electronically:

- **By phone**: Call 1-800-368-1019. If you cannot speak or hear well, please call TTY 1-800-537-7697 or 711 to use the California Relay Service.
- **In writing**: Fill out a complaint form or send a letter to:
  U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
  200 Independence Avenue, SW
  Room 509F, HHH Building
  Washington, D.C. 20201

Complaint forms are available at [https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/complaints/index.html](https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/complaints/index.html).

- **Electronically**: Visit the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal at [https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/cp](https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/cp).

Ways to get involved as a member

CCHP wants to hear from you. Each quarter, CCHP has meetings to talk about what is working well and how CCHP can improve. Members are invited to attend. Come to a meeting!

Managed Care Commission (MCC)

CCHP has a group called the Managed Care Commission (MCC). This group is made up of Medi-Cal and commercial members and providers, among others, including non-voting members. You can join this group if you would like. The group talks about how to improve CCHP policies and is responsible for:

- Addressing health care concerns for persons served by the County.
- Assuring providers, consumers, and our diverse community have input to deliberations and decision making.
- Doing long-range planning and policy formulation and making
recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, County Health Services
Director and Chief Executive Office of CCHP

If you would like to be a part of this group, call CCHP Administration at (925) 313-6004 (TTY 711) or learn more at cchealth.org/healthplan/mcc.

Notice of privacy practices

A statement describing CCHP policies and procedures for preserving the confidentiality of medical records is available and will be furnished to you upon request.

Members who may consent to receive sensitive services are not required to obtain any other member’s authorization to receive sensitive services or to submit a claim for sensitive services. CCHP will direct communications regarding sensitive services to a member’s alternate designated mailing address, email address, or telephone number or, in the absence of a designation, in the name of the member at the address or telephone number on file. CCHP will not disclose medical information related to sensitive services to any other member without written authorization from the member receiving care. CCHP will accommodate requests for confidential communication in the form and format requested, if it is readily producible in the requested form and format, or at alternative locations. A member’s request for confidential communications related to sensitive services will be valid until the member revokes the request or submits a new request for confidential communications.

If you would like confidential communications about sensitive services directed to an alternative mailing address, email address, or telephone number, please call CCHP’s Member Services Department, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm, at 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711).

You may view DHCS’ Notice of Privacy Practices, here:
CCHP’S HIPAA NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

CCHP IS COMMITTED TO PROTECTING YOUR PRIVACY

HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

Who will follow this notice

This Notice describes Contra Costa County’s privacy practices for:

- Contra Costa Regional Medical Center;
- The Ambulatory Care Health Centers and affiliated satellite clinics located in Antioch, Bay Point, Brentwood, Concord, Martinez, Pittsburg, Richmond and San Pablo;
- The Mental Health Centers of Contra Costa County, and the Contra Costa Mental Health Plan;
- The Public Health Centers and programs of Contra Costa County;
- The Alcohol and Other Drug Services programs of Contra Costa County;
- Emergency Medical Services;
- The Contra Costa Health Plan;
- All employees, physicians, health care professional staff, and others authorized to enter information into your medical or health record.
- Volunteers or persons working with us to help you.
- Selected county employees responsible for payment and operational support.
- Self-insured group dental plans and flexible spending health accounts for County employees.
- All providers that the above named entities contract with to provide medical services.

All of the above named entities will follow the terms of this Notice. In addition, all of the above may share medical information with each other for treatment, payment, or health care operations purposes as described in this Notice.
Our promise regarding your medical information
Contra Costa County documents the care and services you receive in written and electronic records. In this Notice, we will refer to those records as “medical information”. We need this information to provide you with quality health care and customer services, evaluate benefits and claims, administer health care coverage, measure performance, and to fulfill legal and regulatory requirements. We understand that medical information about you and your health is personal.

We are committed to protecting your medical information and following all state and federal laws related to the protection of your medical information.

This Notice tells you about the ways in which we may use and disclose medical information about you. It also describes your rights and certain obligations we have regarding the use and disclosure of medical information.

We are required by law to:
• make sure that medical information that identifies you is kept private (with certain exceptions);
• give you this Notice describing our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to medical information about you; and
• follow the terms of the Notice that is currently in effect.

How we may use and disclose medical information about you
Sometimes we are allowed by law to use and disclose your medical information without your permission. We briefly describe these uses and disclosures and give you some examples. Some medical information, such as certain mental health and drug and alcohol abuse patient information, and HIV or genetic tests have stricter requirements for use and disclosure, and your permission will be obtained prior to some uses and disclosures. However, there are still circumstances in which these types of information may be used or disclosed without your permission.

How much medical information is used or disclosed without your permission will vary depending on the intended purpose of the use or disclosure. When we send you an appointment reminder, for example, a very limited amount of medical information will be used or disclosed. At other times, we may need to use or disclose more medical information such as when we are providing medical treatment.
For Treatment
We may use medical information about you to provide you with treatment or services. We may disclose medical information about you to doctors, nurses, therapists, technicians, interns, medical students, residents or other health care personnel who are involved in taking care of you, including offering you medical advice, or to interpreters needed in order to make your treatment accessible to you. For example, a doctor may use the information in your medical record to determine what type of medications, therapy, or procedures are appropriate for you. The treatment plan selected by your doctor will be documented in your record so that other health care professionals can coordinate the different things you need, such as prescriptions, lab tests, referrals, etc.

We also may disclose medical information about you to people outside our facilities who may be involved in your continuing medical care, such as skilled nursing facilities, other health care providers, case managers, transport companies, community agencies, family members, and contracted/affiliated pharmacies.

For Payment
We may use and disclose medical information about you so that the treatment and services you receive may be billed to and payment may be collected from you, an insurance company, or a third party. For example, we may need to give your health plan information about a surgery you received so your health plan will pay us. We may also tell your health plan about a proposed treatment to determine whether your plan will cover the treatment or medication. We may also share your information, when appropriate, with other government programs such as Medicare or Medi-Cal in order to coordinate your benefits and payments, or with practitioners outside the hospital or health centers who are involved in your care, to assist them in obtaining payment for services they provide to you.

The County Health Plans (including the Contra Costa Health Plan and the self- insured group dental plans and flexible spending health accounts for County employees) may use or disclose medical information about you to determine eligibility for plan benefits, obtain premiums, facilitate payment for the treatment and services you receive from health care providers, determine plan responsibility for benefits, and to coordinate benefits.

For Health Care Operations
We may use and disclose medical information about you for certain health care operations. For example, we may use your medical information to review the quality of the treatment and services we provided, to educate our health care professionals, and to evaluate the performance of our staff in caring for you. We may also combine medical...
information about many patients to decide what additional services we should offer, or whether certain new treatments are effective. Your medical information may also be used or disclosed for licensing or accreditation purposes.

The County Health Plans may use and disclose health information about you to carry out necessary insurance-related activities. Examples include underwriting, premium rating, conducting or arranging medical review, legal and audit services, fraud and abuse detection, business planning, management, and general administration. However, the County Health Plans are prohibited from using or disclosing genetic information about you for underwriting purposes.

**Business Associates**
We sometimes obtain services through contracts with business associates. We require a business associate to sign a contract with a written agreement stating they will safeguard your protected health information. We may disclose your medical information to our business associates so that they can perform the job we have asked them to do.

**Electronic Health Information Exchange**
We participate in an electronic health information exchange (HIE) which allows health care providers to share your medical information that is necessary for your treatment. The information shared is maintained in a secure system and is not released outside of the healthcare setting without your written authorization. You may opt out of sharing your information by contacting the Health Information Management Department at 925-370-5220.

**For Reminders**
We may contact you to remind you that you have an appointment, or that you should make an appointment at one of our facilities.

**For Health-Related Benefits & Services**
We may contact you about benefits or services that we provide.

**For Treatment Alternatives**
We may tell you about or recommend possible treatment options or alternatives that may be of interest to you.

**For the Hospital Directory**
When you are a patient in Contra Costa Regional Medical Center, we create a hospital directory that only contains your name and location in the hospital. Unless you object in
writing at the time of admission, this directory information will be released to people who ask for you by name. (Note: If you are admitted to a psychiatric care unit, no information about you will be listed in the hospital directory.)

**To Family and Others When You Are Present**
Sometimes a family member or other person involved in your care will be present when we are discussing your medical information. If you object, please tell us and we won’t discuss your medical information, or we will ask the person to leave.

**To Family And Others When You Are Not Present**
There may be times when it is necessary to disclose your medical information to a family member or other person involved in your care because there is an emergency, you are not present, or you lack the decision-making capacity to agree or object. In those instances, we will use our professional judgment to determine if it is in your best interest to disclose your medical information. If so, we will limit the disclosure to the medical information that is directly relevant to the person’s involvement with your health care. For example, we may allow someone to pick up a prescription for you.

**For Research**
Research of all kinds may involve the use or disclosure of your medical information. Your medical information can generally be used or disclosed for research without your permission if an Institutional Review Board (IRB) approves such use or disclosure. An IRB is a committee that is responsible, under federal law, for reviewing and approving human subjects research to protect the safety and welfare of the participants and the confidentiality of medical information. Your medical information may be important to further research efforts and the development of new knowledge. For example, a research study may involve a chart review to compare the outcomes of patients who received different types of treatment.

We may disclose medical information about you to researchers preparing to conduct a research project. On occasion, researchers contact patients regarding their interest in participating in certain research studies. Enrollment in those studies can only occur after you have been informed about the study, had an opportunity to ask questions, and indicated your willingness to participate by signing a consent form.

**As Required By Law**
We will disclose medical information about you when required to do so by federal, state, or local law.
To Avert A Serious Threat To Health Or Safety
We may use and disclose your medical information when necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to your health or safety or someone else’s. Any disclosure would be to someone able to help stop or reduce the threat.

For Disaster Relief
We may disclose your name, city where you live, age, sex, and general condition to a public or private disaster relief organization to assist disaster relief efforts, and to notify your family about your location and status, unless you object at the time.

For Organ And Tissue Donation
If you are an organ or tissue donor, we may release your medical information to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye, or tissue transplantation or to an organ-donor bank, as necessary to facilitate organ or tissue donation and transplantation.

For Military Activity And National Security
We may sometimes use or disclose the medical information of armed forces personnel to the applicable military authorities when they believe it is necessary to properly carry out military missions. We may also disclose your medical information to authorized federal officials as necessary for national security and intelligence activities or for protection of the president and other government officials and dignitaries.

For Worker’s Compensation
We may release medical information about you to workers’ compensation or similar programs, as required by law. For example, we may communicate your medical information regarding a work-related injury or illness to claims administrators, insurance carriers, and others responsible for evaluating your claim for workers’ compensation benefits.

For Public Health Disclosures
We may use or disclose medical information about you for public health purposes. These purposes generally include the following:

• to prevent or control disease (such as cancer or tuberculosis), injury, or disability;
• to report births and deaths;
• to report suspected child abuse or neglect, or to identify suspected victims of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence;
• to report reactions to medications or problems with products or medical devices;
• to notify people of recalls of products they may be using;
• to notify a person who may have been exposed to a disease or may be at risk for contracting or spreading a disease or condition;
• to comply with federal and state laws that govern workplace safety; and
• to notify emergency response employees regarding possible exposure to HIV/AIDS, to the extent necessary to comply with state and federal laws.

**For Health Oversight Activities**
As health care providers and health plans, we are subject to oversight by accrediting, licensing, federal, and state agencies. These agencies may conduct audits on our operations and activities, and in that process they may review your medical information.

**For Lawsuits And Other Legal Actions**
In connection with lawsuits, or other legal proceedings, we may disclose medical information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena, discovery request, warrant, summons, or other lawful process. We may disclose your medical information to courts, attorneys, and court employees in the course of conservatorship and certain other judicial or administrative proceedings.

We may also use and disclose your medical information, to the extent permitted by law, without your consent to defend a lawsuit.

**For Law Enforcement**
If asked to do so by law enforcement, and as authorized or required by law, we may release medical information:
• to identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person;
• about a suspected victim of a crime if, under certain limited circumstances, we are unable to obtain the person’s agreement;
• about a death suspected to be the result of criminal conduct;
• about criminal conduct at one of our facilities; and
• in case of a medical emergency, to report a crime; the location of the crime or victims; or the identity, description, or location of the person who committed the crime.

**To Coroners And Funeral Directors**
We may release medical information to a coroner or medical examiner to identify a deceased person or determine the cause of death. We may also release medical information about patients to funeral directors as necessary to carry out their duties.
Inmates
If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, we may release medical information about you to the correctional institution for certain purposes, for example, to protect your health or safety or someone else’s. Note: Under the federal law that requires us to give you this Notice, inmates do not have the same rights to control their medical information as other individuals.

Multi-Disciplinary Personnel Teams
We may disclose medical information to a multi-disciplinary personnel team relevant to the prevention, identification, management or treatment of an abused child and the child’s parents, or elder abuse and neglect.

Special Categories of Information
In some instances, your medical information may be subject to restrictions that limit or preclude some uses or disclosures described in this Notice. For example, there are special restrictions on the use or disclosure of certain categories of information, such as tests for HIV or treatment for mental health conditions or alcohol and drug abuse. Government health benefit programs, such as Medi-Cal, may also limit the disclosure of beneficiary information for purposes unrelated to the program.

All other uses and disclosures of your medical information require your prior written authorization
Other uses and disclosures of medical information not covered by this Notice or the laws that apply to us will be made only with your written permission. If you provide us permission to use or disclose medical information about you, you may revoke that permission, in writing, at any time. Please note that the revocation will not apply to any authorized use or disclosure of your medical information that took place before we received your revocation. Also, if you gave your authorization to secure a policy of insurance, including health care coverage from us, you may not be permitted to revoke it until the insurer can no longer contest the policy issued to you or a claim under the policy.

Marketing and Sales
We will not sell or give your information to an outside agency for the purposes of marketing their products without your written authorization.

Psychotherapy Notes
Most uses and disclosures of psychotherapy notes require written authorization.
Your rights regarding your medical information
Your medical information is the property of Contra Costa County. You have the following rights, however, regarding your medical information, such as your medical and billing records. This section describes how you can exercise these rights.

Right To Inspect And Copy
With certain exceptions, you have the right to see and receive copies of your medical information that was used to make decisions about your care, or decisions about your health plan benefits. If your medical information is maintained in an electronic health record, you may obtain a copy of that information, with certain exceptions, in electronic format, and if you choose, you may direct us to transmit an electronic copy directly to another entity or person. Any such designation must be clear, conspicuous, and specific.

If you would like to see or receive a copy of your record on paper or electronically, please write us at the address where you received care. If you don’t know where the record that you want is located, please write us at the Privacy Office of Contra Costa County, 50 Douglas Drive #310-E, Martinez, CA 94553.

We may charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing, or other supplies associated with your request. If the copy is in an electronic form, the fee shall not be greater than the labor costs incurred in responding to your request. If we don’t have the record you asked for but we know who does, we will tell you who to contact to request it.

We may deny your request to inspect and copy in certain very limited circumstances. If you are denied access to medical information, in most cases, you may have the denial reviewed. Another licensed health care professional chosen by Contra Costa County will review your request and the denial. The person conducting the review will not be the person who denied your request. We will comply with the outcome of the review.

Right To Correct Or Update Your Medical Information
If you feel that your medical information is incorrect or important information is missing, you may request that we correct or add to (amend) your record. Please write to us and tell us what you are asking for and why we should make the correction or addition. Submit your request to the Privacy Office of Contra Costa County, 50 Douglas Drive #310-E, Martinez, CA 94553. We may deny your request if it is not in writing or does not include a reason to support the request. In addition, we may deny your request if you ask us to amend information that:
• was not created by us;
• is not a part of the medical information kept by or for us;
• is not part of the information which you would be permitted to inspect and copy; or
• is accurate and complete in the record.

We will let you know our decision within 60 days of your request. If we agree with you, we will make the correction or addition to your record. If we deny your request, you have the right to submit an addendum, or piece of paper written by you, not to exceed 250 words, with respect to any item or statement you believe is incomplete or incorrect in your record. If you clearly indicate in writing that you want the addendum to be made part of your medical record, we will attach it to your records and include it whenever we make a disclosure of the item or statement you believe to be incomplete or incorrect.

Right To An Accounting Of Disclosures
You have the right to receive a list of the disclosures we have made of your medical information. An accounting or list does not include certain disclosures, for example, disclosures to carry out treatment, payment, and health care operations; disclosures that occurred prior to April 14, 2003; disclosures which you authorized us in writing to make; disclosures of your medical information made to you; disclosures to persons acting on your behalf.

To request this list or accounting of disclosures, you must submit your request in writing to the Privacy Office of Contra Costa County, 50 Douglas Drive #310-E, Martinez, CA 94553. Your request must state the time period to be covered, which may not be longer than six years and may not include dates before April 14, 2003. You are entitled to one disclosure accounting in any 12-month period at no charge. If you request any additional accountings less than 12 months later, we may charge a fee.

Notifications
We will notify you as required by law if your medical information is unlawfully accessed or disclosed.

Right To Request Limits On Uses And Disclosures Of Your Medical Information
You have the right to request a restriction or limitation on the medical information we use or disclose about you for treatment, payment, or health care operations. However, by law, we do not have to agree to your request. Because we strongly believe that this information is needed to appropriately manage the care of our members/patients, we rarely grant such a request. If we do agree, we will comply with your request unless the information is needed to provide you emergency treatment.

We will honor a request to restrict disclosures to a health plan for services that have been
paid out of pocket, in full, unless the disclosure is required by law or is determined to be necessary for treatment purposes.

To request restrictions, you must make your request in writing to the Privacy Office of Contra Costa County, 50 Douglas Drive #310-E, Martinez, CA 94553. In your request, you must tell us:
(1) what information you want to limit;
(2) whether you want to limit our use, disclosure, or both; and
(3) to whom you want the limits to apply, for example, disclosures to your spouse.

Right To Choose How We Send Medical Information To You
You have the right to request that we communicate with you about medical matters in a certain way or at a certain location. For example, you can ask that we only phone you at work or use a P.O. Box when we send mail to you.

To request confidential communications, you must make your request in writing, specify how or where you wish to be contacted, and submit it to the Privacy Office of Contra Costa County at 50 Douglas Drive #310-E, Martinez, CA 94553. When we can reasonably and lawfully agree to your request, we will.

Right To A Paper Copy of This Notice
You have the right to a paper copy of this Notice upon request. One way to obtain a paper copy of this Notice is to ask at the registration area of any Contra Costa Health Services' facility. Or, call the Contra Costa Health Plan Member Services at 1-877-661-6230, (press 2) (TTY 711), or the Privacy Office of Contra Costa County at (925) 957-5430. You may also obtain a copy of this Notice of Privacy Practices on our website at: http://www.ccchealth.org/policies/hipaa_statement.php

Changes to this Notice
We may change this Notice and our privacy practices at any time, as long as the change is consistent with state and federal law. Any revised Notice will apply both to the medical information we already have about you at the time of the change, and any medical information created or received after the change takes effect. We will post a copy of our current Notice in all of the Contra Costa Health Services' facilities and on our website at: www.ccchealth.org/policies/hipaa_statement.php

The effective date of the Notice will be on the first page, in the top right-hand corner.
Questions
If you have any questions about this Notice, please contact the Privacy Office for Contra Costa County at (925) 957-5430.

If you have questions related to health information privacy, access the Office for Civil Rights’ database under “HIPAA” at: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy

Complaints
If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with any of the following:

Contra Costa Health Plan members, please call Member Services at 1-877-661-6230, (press 2) (TTY 711).

Clients of the Contra Costa Mental Health Plan may call the Office of Quality Assurance at (925) 957-5160.

You can write the Privacy Office of Contra Costa County, 50 Douglas Drive, #310-E, Martinez, CA 94553, or call our 24-hour Privacy Hotline at 1-800-659-4611.

Medi-Cal beneficiaries may file a privacy complaint with the California Department of Health Care Services: Privacy Officer, c/o Office of Legal Services; P.O. Box 997413, MS0011, Sacramento, CA 95899-7413.
(916) 440-7750
email: privacyofficer@dhcs.ca.gov

You may file a written complaint with the secretary of the Department of Health & Human Services. Instructions on how to file a complaint are found by clicking on “How to File a Complaint” under the section on “HIPAA” at: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy

Or, you can call the San Francisco Office for Civil Rights at (415) 437-8310 to request the Health Information Privacy Complaint Form package.

We will not take retaliatory action against you if you file a complaint about our privacy practices.
Other Uses of Medical Information

Other uses and disclosures of medical information not covered by this notice or the laws that apply to us will be made only with your written permission. If you provide us permission to use or disclose medical information about you, you may revoke that permission, in writing, at any time. If you revoke your permission, this will stop any further use or disclosure of your medical information for the purposes covered by your written okay, except if we have already acted in reliance on your permission. You understand that we are unable to take back any disclosures we have already made with your permission and that we are required to retain our records of the care that we provided to you.

Third-Party Corporate Telehealth Providers

If you are receiving services through third-party corporate telehealth provider, you have a right to access your medical records. Your medical records will be shared for any telehealth services provided with your PCP unless you object. All services received through the third-party corporate telehealth provider are available at in-network cost-sharing and all cost sharing shall accrue to the out-of-pocket maximum and deductible, if any.

CCHP requires providers to obtain consent from you for services provided by third-party corporate telehealth providers, consistent with Business & Professions Code section 2290.5. CCHP will also maintain proper oversight to ensure providers have obtained the above referenced consent.

If you are currently receiving specialty telehealth services for mental health or substance use disorders, you have the option of continuing to receive that service with the contracting individual health professional, a contracting clinic, or a contracting health facility.

Notice about laws

Many laws apply to this Member Handbook. These laws may affect your rights and responsibilities even if the laws are not included or explained in this handbook. The main laws that apply to this handbook are state and federal laws about the Medi-Cal program. Other federal and state laws may apply too.
Notice about Medi-Cal as a payer of last resort, other health coverage and tort recovery

The Medi-Cal program complies with state and federal laws and regulations relating to the legal liability of third parties for health care services to members. CCHP will take all reasonable measures to ensure that the Medi-Cal program is the payer of last resort.

Medi-Cal members may have other health coverage (OHC), also referred to as private health insurance. As a condition of Medi-Cal eligibility, you must apply for and/or retain any available OHC when there is no cost to you.

Federal and state laws require Medi-Cal members to report OHC and any changes to an existing OHC. If you do not report OHC promptly, you may have to repay DHCS for any benefits paid erroneously. Submit your OHC online at http://dhcs.ca.gov/OHC. If you do not have access to the internet, OHC can be reported to your health plan, or by calling 1-800-541-5555 (TTY 1-800-430-7077 or 711; inside California), or 1-916-636-1980 (outside California). DHCS has the right and responsibility to collect for covered Medi-Cal services for which Medi-Cal is not the first payer. For example, if you are injured in a car accident or at work, auto or workers’ compensation insurance may have to pay first, or reimburse Medi-Cal.

If you are injured, and another party is liable for your injury, you or your legal representative must notify DHCS within 30 days of filing a legal action or a claim. Submit your notification online:

- Personal Injury Program at http://dhcs.ca.gov/PI
- Workers Compensation Recovery Program at http://dhcs.ca.gov/WC

To learn more, call 1-916-445-9891.

Notice about estate recovery

The Medi-Cal program must seek repayment from estates of certain deceased members for Medi-Cal benefits received on or after their 55th birthday. Repayment includes fee-for-service and managed care premiums and capitation payments for nursing facility services, home and community-based services, and related hospital and prescription drug services received when the member was in inpatient in a nursing facility or was receiving home and community-based services. Repayment cannot exceed the value of a member’s probated estate.
Notice of Action

CCHP will send you a Notice of Action (NOA) letter any time CCHP denies, delays, terminates or modifies a request for health care services. If you disagree with the plan’s decision, you can always file an appeal with CCHP. Go to the Appeals section above for important information on filing your appeal. When CCHP sends you a NOA it will inform you of all rights you have if you disagree with a decision we made.

Contents in Notices

If CCHP bases denials, delays, terminations, or changes in whole or in part on medical necessity, your NOA must contain the following:

- A statement of the action CCHP intends to take.
- A clear and concise explanation of the reasons for CCHP’s decision.
- How CCHP came to their decision. This should include the criteria CCHP used.
- The medical reasons for the decision. CCHP must clearly state how the member’s condition does not meet the criteria or guidelines.

Translations

CCHP is required to fully translate and provide written member information in common preferred languages, including all grievance and appeals notices.

The fully translated notice must include the medical reason for CCHP’s decision to reduce, suspend, or stop a request for health care services.

If your preferred language is not available, the MCP is required to offer verbal assistance in your preferred language so that you can understand the information you receive.
8. Important numbers and words to know

Important phone numbers

- CCHP member services 1-877-661-6230 (press 2) (TTY 711)
- CCHP 24 Hour Nurse Advice Line at 1-877-661-6230 (press 1) (TTY 711)
- Contra Costa County 24 Hour Mental Health Access Line at 1-888-678-7277
- Medi-Cal Rx at 800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711)

Words to know

**Active labor:** The period of time when a woman is in the three stages of giving birth and either cannot be safely transferred in time to another hospital before delivery or a transfer may harm the health and safety of the woman or unborn child.

**Acute:** A medical condition that is sudden requires fast medical attention and does not last a long time.

**American Indian:** An individual, defined at title 25 of the U.S.C. sections 1603(13), 1603(28). 1679(a) or who has been determined eligible, as an Indian, pursuant to 42 C.F.R. 136.12 or Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, to receive health care services from Indian Health Care Providers (Indian Health Service, an Indian Tribe, Tribal Organization, or Urban Indian Organization—I/T/U) or through referral under Contract Health Services.

**Appeal:** A member’s request for CCHP to review and change a decision made about coverage for a requested service.

**Benefits:** Health care services and drugs covered under this health plan.

**California Children’s Services (CCS):** A Medi-Cal program that provides services for children up to age 21 with certain diseases and health problems.
California Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP): A public health program that reimburses public and private health care providers for early health assessments to detect or prevent disease and disabilities in children and youth. The program helps children and youth access regular health care. Your PCP can provide CHDP services.

Case manager: Registered nurses or social workers who can help you understand major health problems and arrange care with your providers.

Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM): An individual licensed as a Registered Nurse and certified as a nurse midwife by the California Board of Registered Nursing. A certified nurse midwife is permitted to attend cases of normal childbirth.

Chiropractor: A provider who treats the spine by means of manual manipulation.

Chronic condition: A disease or other medical problem that cannot be completely cured or that gets worse over time or that must be treated so you do not get worse.

Clinic: A facility that members can select as a primary care provider (PCP). It can be either a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), community clinic, Rural Health Clinic (RHC), Indian Health Care Provider (IHCP) or other primary care facility.

Community-based adult services (CBAS): Outpatient, facility-based services for skilled nursing care, social services, therapies, personal care, family and caregiver training and support, nutrition services, transportation, and other services for members who qualify.

Complaint: A member’s verbal or written expression of dissatisfaction about a service covered by Medi-Cal, CCHP, county mental health plan, or a Medi-Cal provider.

Continuity of care: The ability of a plan member to keep getting Medi-Cal services from their existing out-of-network provider for up to 12 months, if the provider and CCHP agree.

Contract Drugs List (CDL): The approved drug list for Medi-Cal Rx from which your provider may order covered drugs you need.

Coordination of Benefits (COB): The process of determining which insurance coverage (Medi-Cal, Medicare, commercial insurance or other) has primary treatment and payment responsibilities for members with more than one type of health insurance coverage.

Copayment: A payment you make, generally at the time of service, in addition to the insurer’s payment.
Coverage (covered services): Medi-Cal services for which CCHP is responsible for payment. Covered services are subject to the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the Medi-Cal contract and as listed in this Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and any amendments.

DHCS: The California Department of Health Care Services. This is the State office that oversees the Medi-Cal program.

Disenroll: To stop using this health plan because you no longer qualify or change to a new health plan. You must sign a form that says you no longer want to use this health plan or call HCO and disenroll by phone.

DMHC: The California Department of Managed Health Care. This is the State office that oversees managed care health plans.

Durable medical equipment (DME): Equipment that is medically necessary and ordered by your doctor or other provider. CCHP decides whether to rent or buy DME. Rental costs must not be more than the cost to buy.

Early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment (EPSDT): EPSDT services are a benefit for Medi-Cal members under the age of 21 to help keep them healthy. Members must get the right health check-ups for their age and appropriate screenings to find health problems and treat illnesses early as well as any treatment to take care of or help the conditions that may be found in the check-ups.

Emergency medical condition: A medical or mental condition with such severe symptoms, such as active labor (go to definition above) or severe pain, that someone with a prudent layperson’s knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably believe that not getting immediate medical care could:

- Place your health or the health of your unborn baby in serious danger
- Cause impairment to a body function
- Cause a body part or organ to not work right

Emergency room care: An exam performed by a doctor (or staff under direction of a doctor as allowed by law) to find out if an emergency medical condition exists. Medically necessary services needed to make you clinically stable within the capabilities of the facility.

Emergency medical transportation: Transportation in an ambulance or emergency vehicle to an emergency room to get emergency medical care.

Enrollee: A person who is a member of a health plan and gets services through the
Established patient: A patient who has an existing relationship with a provider and has seen that provider within a specified amount of time established by the Plan.

Excluded services: Services that are not covered by the California Medi-Cal Program.

Experimental treatment: Drugs, equipment, procedures or services that are in a testing phase with laboratory and/or animal studies prior to testing in humans. Experimental services are not undergoing a clinical investigation.

Family planning services: Services to prevent or delay pregnancy.

Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC): A health center in an area that does not have many health care providers. You can get primary and preventive care at an FQHC.

Fee-For-Service (FFS) Medi-Cal: Sometimes your Medi-Cal plan does not cover services but you can still get them through Medi-Cal FFS, such as many pharmacy services through FFS Medi-Cal Rx.

Follow-up care: Regular doctor care to check a patient’s progress after a hospitalization or during a course of treatment.

Fraud: An intentional act to deceive or misrepresent by a person who knows the deception could result in some unauthorized benefit for the person or someone else.

Freestanding Birth Centers (FBCs): Health facilities where childbirth is planned to occur away from the pregnant woman’s residence that are licensed or otherwise approved by the state to provide prenatal labor and delivery or postpartum care and other ambulatory services that are included in the plan. These facilities are not hospitals.

Grievance: A member’s verbal or written expression of dissatisfaction about CCHP, a provider, or the services provided. A complaint filed with CCHP about a network provider is an example of a grievance.

Habilitation services and devices: Health care services that help you keep, learn or improve skills and functioning for daily living.

Health Care Options (HCO): The program that can enroll or disenroll you from the health plan.

Health care providers: Doctors and specialists such as surgeons, doctors who treat cancer or doctors who treat special parts of the body, and who work with CCHP or are in the CCHP network. CCHP network providers must have a license to practice in
California and give you a service CCHP covers.

You usually need a referral from your PCP to go to a specialist. In some cases, your PCP or other provider may also need to get pre-approval from CCHP before you get care from the specialist.

You do **not** need a referral from your PCP for some types of service, such as family planning, emergency care, OB/GYN care or sensitive services.

**Health insurance:** Insurance coverage that pays for medical and surgical expenses by repaying the insured for expenses from illness or injury or paying the care provider directly.

**Home health care:** Skilled nursing care and other services given at home.

**Home health care providers:** Providers who give you skilled nursing care and other services at home.

**Hospice:** Care to reduce physical, emotional, social and spiritual discomforts for a member with a terminal illness. Hospice care is available when the member has a life expectancy of 6 months or less.

**Hospital:** A place where you get inpatient and outpatient care from doctors and nurses.

**Hospital outpatient care:** Medical or surgical care performed at a hospital without admission as an inpatient.

**Hospitalization:** Admission to a hospital for treatment as an inpatient.

**Indian Health Care Provider (IHCP):** A health care program operated by the Indian Health Service (IHS), an Indian Tribe, Tribal Organization or Urban Indian Organization (I/T/U) as those terms are defined in Section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. section 1603).

**Inpatient care:** When you have to stay the night in a hospital or other place for the medical care you need.

**Investigational treatment:** A treatment drug, biological product or device that has successfully completed phase one of a clinical investigation approved by the FDA but that has not been approved for general use by the FDA and remains under investigation in an FDA approved clinical investigation.

**Long-term care:** Care in a facility for longer than the month of admission.

**Managed care plan:** A Medi-Cal plan that uses only certain doctors, specialists, clinics, pharmacies and hospitals for Medi-Cal recipients enrolled in that plan. CCHP is a

Call member services at 1-877-661-6230 (Option 2) (TTY 711). CCHP is here Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The call is toll free. Or call the California Relay Line at 711. Visit online at [www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org](http://www.ContraCostaHealthPlan.org).
managed care plan.

**Medi-Cal Rx:** An FFS Medi-Cal pharmacy benefit service known as “Medi-Cal Rx” that provides pharmacy benefits and services, including prescription drugs and some medical supplies to all Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

**Medical home:** A model of care that will provide better health care quality, improve self-management by members of their own care and reduce avoidable costs over time.

**Medical transportation:** Transportation when you cannot get to a covered medical appointment and/or to pick up prescriptions by car, bus, train or taxi and your provider prescribes it for you. CCHP pays for the lowest cost transportation for your medical needs when you need a ride to your appointment.

**Medically necessary (or medical necessity):** Medically necessary care are important services that are reasonable and protect life. This care is needed to keep patients from getting seriously ill or disabled. This care reduces severe pain by treating the disease, illness or injury. For members under the age of 21, Medi-Cal medically necessary services includes care that is medically necessary to fix or help a physical or mental illness or condition, including substance use disorders, as set forth in Section 1396d(r) of Title 42 of the United States Code.

**Medicare:** The federal health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, certain younger people with disabilities, and people with end-stage renal disease (permanent kidney failure that requires dialysis or a transplant, sometimes called ESRD).

**Member:** Any eligible Medi-Cal member enrolled with CCHP who is entitled to get covered services.

**Mental health services provider:** Licensed individuals who provide mental health and behavioral health services to patients.

**Midwifery services:** Prenatal, intrapartum, and postpartum care, including family planning care for the mother and immediate care for the newborn, provided by certified nurse midwives (CNM) and licensed midwives (LM).

**Network:** A group of doctors, clinics, hospitals and other providers contracted with CCHP to provide care.

**Network provider (or in-network provider):** Go to “Participating provider.”

**Non-covered service:** A service that CCHP does not cover.
Non-medical transportation: Transportation when traveling to and from an appointment for a Medi-Cal covered service authorized by your provider and when picking up prescriptions and medical supplies.

Non-participating provider: A provider not in the CCHP network.

Other health coverage (OHC): Other health coverage (OHC) refers to private health insurance and service payers other than Medi-Cal. Services may include medical, dental, vision, pharmacy and/or Medicare supplemental plans (Part C & D).

Orthotic device: A device used as a support or brace affixed externally to the body to support or correct an acutely injured or diseased body part and that is medically necessary for the medical recovery of the member.

Out-of-area services: Services while a member is anywhere outside of the service area.

Out-of-network provider: A provider who is not part of the CCHP network.

Outpatient care: When you do not have to stay the night in a hospital or other place for the medical care you need.

Outpatient mental health services: Outpatient services for members with mild to moderate mental health conditions including:

- Individual or group mental health evaluation and treatment (psychotherapy)
- Psychological testing when clinically indicated to evaluate a mental health condition
- Outpatient services for the purposes of monitoring medication therapy
- Psychiatric consultation
- Outpatient laboratory, supplies and supplements

Palliative care: Care to reduce physical, emotional, social and spiritual discomforts for a member with a serious illness. Palliative care does not require the member to have a life expectancy of 6 months or less.

Participating hospital: A licensed hospital that has a contract with CCHP to provide services to members at the time a member gets care. The covered services that some participating hospitals may offer to members are limited by CCHP’s utilization review and quality assurance policies or CCHP’s contract with the hospital.

Participating provider (or participating doctor): A doctor, hospital or other licensed health care professional or licensed health facility, including sub-acute facilities that have a contract with CCHP to offer covered services to members at the time a member
gets care.

**Physician services:** Services given by a person licensed under state law to practice medicine or osteopathy, not including services offered by doctors while you are admitted in a hospital that are charged in the hospital bill.

**Plan:** Go to “Managed care plan.”

**Post-stabilization services:** Covered services related to an emergency medical condition that are provided after a member is stabilized to maintain the stabilized condition. Post-stabilization care services are covered and paid for. Out-of-network hospitals may need pre-approval.

**Pre-approval (or prior authorization):** Your PCP or other providers must get approval from CCHP before you get certain services. CCHP will only approve the services you need. CCHP will not approve services by non-participating providers if CCHP believes you can get comparable or more appropriate services through CCHP providers. A referral is not an approval. You must get approval from CCHP.

**Prescription drug coverage:** Coverage for medications prescribed by a provider.

**Prescription drugs:** A drug that legally requires an order from a licensed provider to be dispensed.

**Primary care:** Go to “Routine care.”

**Primary care provider (PCP):** The licensed provider you have for most of your health care. Your PCP helps you get the care you need. Some care needs to be approved first, unless:

- You have an emergency
- You need OB/GYN care
- You need sensitive services
- You need family planning services/birth control

Your PCP can be a:

- General practitioner
- Internist
- Pediatrician
- Family practitioner
- OB/GYN
- Indian Health Care Provider (IHCP)
- Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
- Rural Health Clinic (RHC)
- Nurse practitioner
- Physician assistant
- Clinic

**Prior authorization (pre-approval):** Your PCP or other providers must get approval from CCHP before you get certain services. CCHP will only approve the services you need. CCHP will not approve services by non-participating providers if CCHP believes you can get comparable or more appropriate services through CCHP providers. A referral is not an approval. You must get approval from CCHP.

**Prosthetic device:** An artificial device attached to the body to replace a missing body part.

**Provider Directory:** A list of providers in the CCHP network.

**Psychiatric emergency medical condition:** A mental disorder in which the symptoms are serious or severe enough to cause an immediate danger to yourself or others or you are immediately unable to provide for or use food, shelter or clothing due to the mental disorder.

**Public health services:** Health services targeted at the population as a whole. These include, among others, health situation analysis, health surveillance, health promotion, prevention services, infectious disease control, environmental protection and sanitation, disaster preparedness and response, and occupational health.

**Qualified provider:** Doctor qualified in the area of practice appropriate to treat your condition.

**Reconstructive surgery:** Surgery to correct or repair abnormal structures of the body to improve function or create a normal appearance to the extent possible. Abnormal structures of the body are those caused by a congenital defect, developmental abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors or disease.

**Referral:** When your PCP says you can get care from another provider. Some covered care services require a referral and pre-approval (prior authorization).

**Rehabilitative and habilitative therapy services and devices:** Services and devices to help people with injuries, disabilities, or chronic conditions to gain or recover mental and physical skills.

**Routine care:** Medically necessary services and preventive care, well child visits, or care such as routine follow-up care. The goal of routine care is to prevent health problems.
Rural Health Clinic (RHC): A health center in an area that does not have many health care providers. You can get primary and preventive care at an RHC.

Sensitive services: Services related to mental or behavioral health, sexual and reproductive health, family planning, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV/AIDS, sexual assault and abortions, substance use disorder, gender affirming care and intimate partner violence.

Serious illness: A disease or condition that must be treated and could result in death.

Service area: The geographic area CCHP serves. This includes Contra Costa County.

Skilled nursing care: Covered services provided by licensed nurses, technicians and/or therapists during a stay in a skilled nursing facility or in a member’s home.

Skilled nursing facility: A place that gives 24-hour-a-day nursing care that only trained health professionals may give.

Specialist (or specialty doctor): A doctor who treats certain types of health care problems. For example, an orthopedic surgeon treats broken bones; an allergist treats allergies; and a cardiologist treats heart problems. In most cases, you will need a referral from your PCP to go to a specialist.

Specialty mental health services: Services for members who have mental health services needs that are a higher level of impairment than mild to moderate.

Terminal illness: A medical condition that cannot be reversed and will most likely cause death within one year or less if the disease follows its natural course.

Tort recovery: When benefits are provided or will be provided to a Medi-Cal member because of an injury for which another party is liable, DHCS recovers the reasonable value of benefits provided to the member for that injury.

Triage (or screening): The evaluation of your health by a doctor or nurse who is trained to screen for the purpose of determining the urgency of your need for care.

Urgent care (or urgent services): Services provided to treat a non-emergency illness, injury or condition that requires medical care. You can get urgent care from an out-of-network provider, if in-network providers are temporarily not available or accessible.
Contra Costa Regional Medical Center Medi-Cal Facility Directory

For Appointments at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center Network Health Centers call: 1-800-495-8885
or sign up for MyChart to make your own appointments at mychart.cchealth.org

To leave a message for your Provider or your Provider's Care Coordinator call: 1-877-905-4545

California Relay/TTY for the Hearing Impaired call: 1-800-735-2929

Antioch Health Center
2335 Country Hills Drive
Antioch, CA 94509
(925) 608-8500
Mon – Thurs: 7:45 am – 8:30 pm*
Fri., 7:45 am – 4:45 pm*

Bay Point Family Health Center
215 Pacifica Avenue
Bay Point, CA 94565
Mon: 7:45 am – 8:30 pm*
Tues – Fri: 7:45 am – 4:45 pm*

Children’s Dental:
18 yrs. of age and under
(925) 427-8302

Brentwood Health Center
171 Sand Creek Road, Ste. A
Brentwood, CA 94513
Mon, Tues, Wed: 7:45 am – 8:30 pm*
Thurs, Fri: 7:45 am – 4:45 pm*

Concord Health Center
3052 Willow Pass Road
Concord, CA 94519
(925) 681-4100
Mon – Thurs: 7:45 am – 8:15 pm*
Fri: 7:45 am – 4:45 pm*

Concord Health Center
Bldg. 2
3024 Willow Pass Road
Concord, CA 94519
(925) 681-4100
Mon – Fri: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm*
Wed: 8:00 am – 9:00 pm*

George & Cynthia Miller Wellness Center
25 Allen Street
Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 313-7900
Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 7:45 am – 4:45 pm*
Tues, Thurs: 7:45 am – 6:15 pm*

Martinez Family Practice Center
(Building 1)
2500 Alhambra Avenue
Martinez, CA 94553
Mon – Fri: 7:45 am – 8:45 pm*

Dental Clinic: (925) 370-5300

North Richmond Center for Health
1501 Fred Jackson Way
(formerly Third Street)
Richmond, CA 94801
Mon – Fri: 7:45 am – 4:45 pm*

Pittsburg Health Center
2311 Loveridge Road
Pittsburg, CA 94565
Mon – Thurs: 7:45 am – 8:30 pm*
Fri: 7:45 am – 4:45 pm*
Sat: 7:45– 4:45 pm*
(evening hours by appt)

Dental: (925) 431–2501
Emergency Dental Only:
call between 7:00 am – 7:30 am for same day appts.
(925) 431-2502

West County Health Center
13601 San Pablo Ave.
San Pablo, CA 94806
(510) 231-9400
Mon –Thurs: 8:00 am – 8:45 pm*;
Fri & Sat: 8 am – 5 pm*;
Sat: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm* (by appointment only)

Willow Pass Wellness Center
1420 Willow Pass Road
Concord, CA 94520
(925) 646-5480
Mon – Thurs: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm*
Fri: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm*
Appointments by Referral Only

*Closed daily for lunch from 11:45 am – 12:45 pm
Other Important Phone Numbers

**Community Provider Network (CPN)**
To find your CPN Provider office hours, address and phone number please call our Member Services number listed below or visit our website at: www.contracostahealthplan.org

For 24 Hour Urgently needed Services call your Provider’s office or the CCHP Advice Nurse: 1-877-661-6230 (press 1)

**Kaiser Network**
To reach the 24 hour Call Center for CCHP’s Medi-Cal members with Kaiser, call Appointments, Advice Nurse and Customer Service: 1-800-464-4000

**CCHP Member Call Center**
1-877-661-6230
Press 1: Advice Nurse  
(24 hour Emergency Service, 7 days a week)
Press 2: Member Services
Press 3: Pharmacy Services
Press 4: Mental Health Referrals & Authorizations
Press 5: Appointments (County Health Centers only)
Press 6: Marketing Department

**Pharmacy**
For Prescription Refills, call the phone number on your bottle. Order your refills 7 days in advance. Some medicines may require prior authorization. To locate the closest Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy, call 800-977-2273 (TTY 800-977-2273 and press 5 or 711), or go to https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home

**Mental Health Services**
1-888-678-7277

**Substance Abuse Services**
1-800-846-1652

**Women’s Health**
(925) 608-5360

**HEALTH CARE OPTIONS (HCO)**
1-800-430-4263

**TOLL-FREE LANGUAGE NUMBERS FOR HEALTH CARE OPTIONS**
English & languages not listed ... 1-800-430-4263
Arabic / العربية .................................................. 1-800-576-6881
Armenian / հայերեն ........................................ 1-800-840-5032
Cambodian / ភាសាខ្មែរ .............. 1-800-430-5005
Cantonese / 廣東話 ........................................ 1-800-430-6006
Farsi / فارسی ....................................................... 1-800-840-5034
Hmong / Hmoob .............................. 1-800-430-2022
Korean / 한국어 ................................................... 1-800-576-6883
Laotian / ລາວ ....................................................... 1-800-430-4091
Mandarin / 普通話 .............................. 1-800-576-6885
Russian / Русский ........................................ 1-800-430-7007
Spanish/ Español ........................................ 1-800-430-3003
Tagalog ......................................................... 1-800-576-6890
Vietnamese / Tiếng Việt .......... 1-800-430-8008

**HCO TDD LINE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED**
1-800-430-7077

**Calif. Dept. of Health Care Services Office of Family Planning**
1-800-942-1054

**Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) for Seniors**
1-800-510-2020

**Denti-Cal Beneficiary Telephone Service Center**
1-800-322-6384

**Medi-Cal Ombudsman**
1-888-452-8609
Member Call Center
Centro de Llamadas de Miembros

1-877-661-6230
(Hearing / speech impaired call TTY 711)
(Discapacidad auditiva y del habla llame al TTY 711)

Option 1: Advice Nurse (24 hours, 7 days a week)
Opción 1: Enfermero asesor (las 24 horas del día)

Option 2: Member Services
Opción 2: Servicios a Miembros

Option 3: Pharmacy Services
Opción 3: Servicios farmacéuticos

Option 4: Mental Health Referrals & Authorizations
Opción 4: Referencia y Autorizaciones de Salud Mental

Option 5: Appointments (County Health Centers only)
Opción 5: Citas (sólo para los Centros de Salud del Condado)

Option 6: Marketing Department
Opción 6: Departamento de Mercadotecnia