



**Network Provider
Physician Assistant
Contract**

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APPENDIX:

CONTRACT SIGNATURE PAGE



Network Provider Physician Assistant Contract

It is hereby agreed between the Office of Management and Enterprise Services Employees Group Insurance Division (EGID), and the Physician Assistant named on the signature page, that the Physician Assistant shall be a Provider in EGID's network of providers.

This Contract is entered into for the purpose of defining the conditions for reimbursement by EGID to the Physician Assistant. It in no way is meant to impact the Physician Assistant's decision as to what he or she considers appropriate medical treatment.

I. RECITALS

- 1.1 EGID (EGID) is a statutory body created by 74 O.S. 2012, §1301 et seq., as amended, to administer and manage certain insurance benefits for employees of the State of Oklahoma.
- 1.2 The Physician Assistant is duly licensed by the state of practice as a practitioner of the healing arts. The Physician Assistant must satisfy additional credentialing criteria as established by EGID.
- 1.3 The intent of this Contract is to provide access to enhanced quality health care, utilizing managed care components, at an affordable, competitive cost to EGID and its members.
- 1.4 Failure to abide by any of the following provisions may result in non- renewal of the Contract or may be cause for termination.

II. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 "Allowable Fee" means the maximum charge payable to a Physician Assistant for a specific procedure in accordance with the provisions in Article VI of this Contract. The Physician Assistant shall charge the usual and customary fee unless the fee schedule limits otherwise.
- 2.2 "Concurrent Review" means a function performed by EGID or its designee that determines and updates medical necessity for continued inpatient hospitalization.
- 2.3 "Credentialing Plan" means a general rule and process for the acceptance, cooperation and termination of participating Physician Assistants and other health care providers.
- 2.4 "Emergency medical condition" means a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) so that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in a condition described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of section 1867(e)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395dd(e)(1)(A)).
- 2.5 HELP/Wellness (Health Education Lifestyle Planning) means the program established to actively promote responsible behavior and the adoption of lifestyles that are in the best interest of the

Plan member's good health.

- 2.6 "Hospital Services" means those acute care inpatient and outpatient hospital services that are covered by the State and Education Employees Health Insurance Plan.
- 2.7 "Medical" means belonging to the study and practice of medicine for the prevention, alleviation or management of a physical or mental defect, illness, or condition.
- 2.8 "Medically Necessary" means services or supplies that, under the provisions of this Contract, are determined to be:
- a) appropriate and necessary for the symptoms, diagnosis or treatment of the medical condition, and
 - b) provided for the diagnosis and treatment of the medical condition, and
 - c) within standards of acceptable, prudent medical practice within the community, and
 - d) not primarily for the convenience of the member, the member's Physician Assistant or another provider, and
 - e) any condition which, if left untreated, could deteriorate into a life threatening situation, and
 - f) the most appropriate supply or level of service that can safely be provided. For hospital stays, this means that the acute care as an inpatient is necessary due to the kind of services the member is receiving or the severity of the member's condition, and that safe and adequate care cannot be received as an outpatient or in a less intensified medical setting.
- 2.9 "Medical Services" means the professional services provided by a Network Physician Assistant and covered by the State and Education Employees Health Insurance Plan.
- 2.10 "Members" means all persons covered by the Group Insurance Plans, including active, retired, or vested employees, survivors and others on approved leave or disability and their covered dependents eligible at the time of service.
- 2.11 "Network Provider" means a licensed practitioner of the healing arts who has entered into this Contract with EGID to accept scheduled reimbursement for covered medical services provided to members.
- 2.12 "Precertification" means a function performed by EGID, or its designee to review and certify medical necessity prior to the receipt of service for hospital admissions and all outpatient surgical procedures.
- 2.13 "Prior Authorization" means a function performed by EGID, or its designee, to review for medical necessity in identified areas of practice as defined at 7.11 of this Contract, prior to services being rendered.
- 2.14 "Employees Health Insurance Plan" means the HealthChoice benefit plan designed to enhance the quality of care, and to financially incentivize members to use Network Providers.
- 2.15 "Third Party Payer" means an insurance company or other entity making payment directly to the Physician Assistant on behalf of EGID.

- 2.16 “Certification” means a function performed by EGID or its designee to review and certify medical necessity for emergency, holiday or weekend surgeries and observation stays with duration of more than 24 hours within one working day after services are incurred.

III. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE AND THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

- 3.1 EGID has negotiated and entered into this Contract with the Physician Assistant on behalf of the individuals who are members of the State and Education Employees Health Insurance Plan. The Physician Assistant is an independent contractor who has entered into this Contract to become a Network Physician Assistant and is not, nor is intended to be, the employee, agent or other legal representative of EGID in the performance of the provisions of this Contract. Nothing in this Contract shall be construed or be deemed to create a relationship contrary to that of independent contractor for the purposes of this Contract.
- 3.2 EGID and the Physician Assistant agree that all of the parties hereto shall respect and observe the provider/patient relationship that will be established and maintained by the Physician Assistant. The Physician Assistant may choose not to establish a provider/patient relationship if the Physician Assistant would have otherwise made the decision not to establish a provider/patient relationship had the patient not been a member. The Physician Assistant reserves the right to refuse to furnish services to a member in the same manner as he would any other patient.
- 3.3 Nothing in this Contract is intended to be construed, or be deemed to create any rights or remedies in any third party, including but not limited to, a member or a Network Physician Assistant other than the Physician Assistant named in this Contract.

IV. PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SERVICES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 The Physician Assistant agrees to provide quality health care in a cost efficient manner at the direction and under the supervision of a licensed physician and within the scope of the physician’s routine services.
- 4.2 For the purpose of reimbursement, the Physician Assistant shall provide services to members that are medically necessary and covered under the Health Insurance Plan.
- 4.3 The Physician Assistant agrees to make reasonable effort to refer covered members to those network hospitals, with which EGID contracts, for medically necessary services that the Physician Assistant cannot or chooses not to provide. Failure of the Physician Assistant to use Network Providers will result in a review pursuant to the credentialing plan.
- 4.4 The Physician Assistant shall prescribe for EGID members those medications and medical supplies identified on the Physician Assistant drug formulary which is designated by statute and within the scope of which the supervising physician is permitted to prescribe.
- 4.5 The Physician Assistant shall participate in the pre-admission certification, concurrent review, and prior authorization procedures provided in Article VII and for purposes of reimbursement to abide by decisions resulting from those reviews subject to rights of reconsideration, review and appeal.

- 4.6 The provider shall submit a current, complete and accurate Oklahoma Uniform Credentialing Application (ODH Form 606) and EGID OUCA Supplement as allowed under OK §63-1-106.2 and Laws 1998, c. 210, § 1 which are incorporated herein by reference. The provider shall notify EGID's Network Management of any change in the information contained in the Application within 15 days of such change.
- 4.7 The Physician Assistant shall reimburse them for any overpayments made to the Physician Assistant within 30 days of the Physician Assistant's receipt of the overpayment notification.
- 4.8 The Physician Assistant shall submit to a patient record audit upon 48 hours advance notice.
- 4.9 The Physician Assistant shall participate in HELP/Wellness promotions sponsored by EGID, at EGID's allowable under the terms of the promotion.

V. EGID SERVICES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 EGID agrees to pay the Physician Assistant compensation pursuant to the provisions of Article VI, subject to appropriate application of procedural coding recommendations.
- 5.2 EGID agrees to grant the Physician Assistant the status of "Network Provider" and to identify the Physician Assistant as a Network Provider on informational materials disseminated to members.
- 5.3 EGID agrees to continue listing the Physician Assistant as a Network Provider until this Contract terminates.
- 5.4 EGID agrees to periodically provide access to a list of all Network Providers.
- 5.5 EGID agrees to provide appropriate identification cards for members.
- 5.6 EGID agrees to adhere to confidentiality of patient's records and to only release pertinent clinical information in accordance with state and federal guidelines.
- 5.7 EGID shall give a 48 hour notice prior to an audit.
- 5.8 EGID shall maintain prior authorization; precertification and concurrent review programs in order to aid its members in making decisions that will maximize medical benefits and reduce their financial risk.

VI. COMPENSATION AND BILLING

- 6.1 The Physician Assistant shall seek payment only from EGID for the provision of medical services except as provided in paragraphs 6.3, 6.4, and 6.9. The payment from the Employees Health Insurance Plan shall be limited to the amounts referred to in paragraph 6.2.
- 6.2 EGID shall allow benefits for Physician Assistant services at 85% of the prescribed fee schedule amounts designated for services rendered by a licensed Physician.
 - a) EGID may reduce the payment by any deductibles, coinsurance and copayments.
 - b) EGID shall have the right to categorize what shall constitute a procedure. EGID and the

- member's financial liability shall be limited to the procedures allowable as determined by EGID, paid by applying appropriate coding methodology, whether the Physician Assistant has billed appropriately or not.
- c) The Physician Assistant agrees not to charge more for medical services to members than the amount normally charged (excluding Medicare) by the Physician Assistant to other patients for similar services. The Physician Assistant may, however, contract with other third party payers for services. The Physician Assistant's usual and customary charges may be requested by the Insurance Board and verified through an audit.
- 6.3 The Physician Assistant agrees that the only charges for which a member may be liable and be billed by the Physician Assistant shall be for medical services not covered by State and Education Employees Health Insurance Plan, or as provided in paragraphs 6.4 and 6.9. The Physician Assistant shall not waive any deductibles, copayments and coinsurance required by EGID, except during times of HELP/Wellness promotions, when the copayment/coinsurance is waived by EGID.
- 6.4 The Physician Assistant shall not collect amounts in excess of the Plan limits unless the member has exceeded his/her annual or lifetime maximum.
- 6.5 The Physician Assistant shall refund within 30 days of discovery to the member any overpayments made by the member. In a case in which EGID is primary under applicable coordination of benefit rules, EGID shall pay the amounts due under this Contract. In a case in which EGID is other than primary under the coordination of benefit rules, EGID shall pay only those amounts not payable from other sources pursuant to the applicable coordination of benefit rules, up to EGID's maximum liability under the terms of this Contract.
- 6.7 The Physician Assistant shall bill EGID on forms acceptable to EGID within 60 days of providing the medical services. The Physician Assistant shall use the current CPT codes with appropriate modifiers, HCPCS codes, and ICD or DSM diagnostic codes, when applicable. The Physician Assistant shall furnish, upon request at no cost, all information, including medical records, reasonably required by the to verify and substantiate the provision of medical services and the charges for such services if the member and the Physician Assistant are seeking reimbursement through EGID.
- 6.8 EGID shall reimburse the Physician Assistant within 30 days of receipt of billings that are accurate, complete and otherwise in accordance with Article VI of this Contract. EGID will not be responsible for delay of reimbursement due to circumstances beyond EGID's control.
- 6.9 The Physician Assistant shall not charge the member for medical services denied during preadmission certification, concurrent review or the prior authorization procedures described in Article VII, unless the Physician Assistant has obtained a written waiver from that member. Such a waiver shall be obtained only upon the denial of admission, concurrent review or prior authorization and prior to the provision of those medical services. The waiver shall clearly state that the member shall be responsible for payment of medical services denied by EGID.
- 6.10 EGID shall have the right at all reasonable times and, to the extent permitted by law, to inspect and duplicate all medical and billing records relating to medical services rendered to covered members at no cost to EGID or the member.

VII. UTILIZATION REVIEW

- 7.1 The Physician Assistant shall adhere to and cooperate with EGID's precertification, concurrent review and prior authorization procedures. These procedures do not guarantee a member's eligibility or that benefits are payable, but assure the Physician Assistant that the medical services to be provided are covered under the Plan.
- 7.2 The Physician Assistant, or his/her representative, shall notify the, or its designee, of any admission. The Physician Assistant shall request precertification at least 3 days prior to the scheduled admission. A request for certification shall be made within one working day after an emergency admission or observation stay with duration greater than 24 hours. Such notification shall be at no charge to EGID or the member. Failure to comply with the precertification, concurrent review or prior authorization requirements shall result in the Physician Assistant's reimbursement being penalized by 10% if medical necessity is confirmed retrospectively and, if not confirmed, there shall be no reimbursement.
- 7.3 The Physician Assistant or his/her representative shall notify EGID or its designee of any outpatient surgical procedure which is to be accomplished outside the Physician Assistant's office.
- 7.4 EGID precertification, prior authorization and concurrent review requirements are intended to maximize insurance benefits assuring that hospital and medical services are provided to the member at the appropriate level of care. In no event is it intended that the procedures interfere with the Physician Assistant's decision to order admission or discharge of the patient to or from the hospital.
- 7.5 EGID shall maintain review procedures and screening criteria that take into account professionally acceptable standards for quality medical care in the community. EGID or its designee shall consider all relevant information concerning the member before medical necessity is approved or denied.
- 7.6 EGID, or its designee, shall respond to requests for precertification by immediately assigning a code number to each request.
- 7.7 At the time of the precertification request the Physician Assistant should be prepared to give the following information:
 - a) member's name and social security number,
 - b) age and sex,
 - c) diagnosis,
 - d) reason for admission,
 - e) scheduled date of admission,
 - f) planned procedure or surgery,
 - g) scheduled date of surgery,
 - h) name of hospital,
 - i) name of Physician Assistant, and
 - j) member status (i.e.: employee, dependent).
- 7.8 EGID shall not retrospectively deny any previously approved care. The Physician Assistant and/or

his/her designee shall update EGID, or its designee, as the member's condition or diagnosis changes. Updated information may result in a change of the originally approved length of stay.

- 7.9 Upon the member's request, EGID shall reconsider any non- approved services. The Physician Assistant may submit a formal written appeal to EGID.
- 7.10 The Physician Assistant shall request precertification before the admission or referral of members to non-network hospitals. EGID shall review emergency referrals to non-network hospitals to determine whether the admission was medically necessary and an emergency as defined in this Contract.
- 7.11 The Physician Assistant shall request prior authorization from EGID or its designee for the following:
 - a) solid organ transplantation, including ABNT/HDCT/peripheral stem cell recovery,
 - b) home health care,
 - c) durable medical equipment,
 - d) home infusion therapies,
 - e) mental health/substance abuse (day and residential treatment),
 - f) bone growth stimulators, and
 - g) breast surgeries, implants, reductions and reconstruction.

VIII. LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

- 8.1 Neither party to this Contract, the nor the Physician Assistant, nor any agent, employee or other representative of a party, shall be liable to third parties for any negligent act by commission or omission of the other party in performance of this Contract and the terms and provisions herein.
- 8.2 The Physician Assistant at his/her sole expense shall maintain a minimum of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$1,000,000 aggregate of insurance coverage for professional liability.

IX. MARKETING, ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY

- 9.1 EGID shall encourage its members to use the services of the Network Physician Assistant.
- 9.2 EGID shall have the right to use the name, office address, telephone number and specialty of the Physician Assistant for purposes of informing its members and prospective members of the identity of the Network Providers.
- 9.3 The Physician Assistant, upon prior approval of EGID, shall have the right to publicize the Physician Assistant's status in the EGID's Network of Providers.

X. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 10.1 The and the Physician Assistant agree that their authorized representatives will meet in a timely manner and negotiate in good faith to resolve any problems or disputes that may arise in performance of the terms and provisions of this Contract. Nothing in this Article shall interfere with either party's rights under Article XI.

XI. TERM AND TERMINATION

- 11.1 It is agreed by the parties that no changes to the Contract, which include coverages or fee reimbursements, shall be made with less than 60 days' notice to all affected parties, but for in the instance of revisions to injectable medications, in which case EGID shall implement the revisions as possible with proper and timely notification to the providers.
- 11.2 Either party may terminate this Contract with or without cause, upon giving 30 day notice pursuant to 12.2.
- 11.3 Nothing in this Contract shall be construed to limit either party's remedies at law or in equity in the event of a material breach of this Contract.
- 11.4 This Contract shall terminate with respect to a Physician Assistant upon:
- a) the loss or suspension of the Physician Assistant's license or certification respectively, to practice in the state of practice; or
 - b) failure to maintain Physician Assistant's professional liability insurance in accordance with this Contract.
- 11.5 Following the effective date of termination, this Contract shall be of no further force or effect, except that each party shall remain liable for any obligations or liabilities arising from activities carried on by it hereunder prior to the effective date of termination of this Contract.
- 11.6 Following termination of this Contract, EGID shall continue to have access to the Physician Assistant's records of care and services provided to members for five years from the date of provision of the services to which the records refer as set forth in Paragraph 6.10.

XII. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 12.1 This Contract or any of the rights, duties, or obligations of the parties hereunder, shall not be assigned by either party without the express written consent and approval of the other party.
- 12.2 At any place within this Contract that notice is required, it is the intention of the parties that only those with regard to termination by either party of participation in the Contract must be sent by certified mail, a return receipt requested, at no other time when notice is required by this Contract is there an obligation by either party to use certified mail. The Network Newsletter serves as the primary method by which providers receive all other notifications mandated by the terms of the provider contracts. These notices from EGID may be sent via electronic newsletters distributed electronically to each Network Provider's correspondence email address. Printed newsletters are sent via the postal service to the mailing address on record for providers without internet access or those who have undeliverable email addresses.
- 12.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 12.1 of this Contract, EGID may appoint an Administrator to administer any of the terms of the Network Contract referenced herein, and any and all duties or acts required of EGID under this Contract and to receive any notices required by this Contract.
- 12.4 This Contract, together with its exhibits, contains the entire agreement between EGID and the Physician Assistant relating to the rights granted and the obligations assumed by the parties

concerning the provision of medical services to members. Any prior agreements, promises, negotiations, or representations, either oral or written, relating to the subject matter of this Contract not expressly set forth in this Contract are of no force or effect.

- 12.5 This Contract, or any part, section or exhibit of, or attached to it, may be amended at any time during the term of the Contract by mutual written consent of duly authorized representatives of EGID and the Physician Assistant.
- 12.6 This Contract is subject to all applicable Oklahoma State Statutes and Rules and Regulations. Any provision of this Contract that is not in conformity with existing or future legislation shall be considered amended to comply with such legislation. Any interpretations or disputes with respect to contract provisions shall be resolved in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma.
- 12.7 The terms and provisions of this Contract shall be deemed to be severable one from the other, and the determination at law or in a court of equity that one term or provision is unenforceable, shall have no effect on the remaining terms and provisions of this entire Contract, or any one of them, in accordance with the intent and purpose of the parties hereto.
- 12.8 All Providers certify that neither they nor their principals are presently debarred or suspended or otherwise ineligible according to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)/Office of Inspector General (OIG) excluded provider lists.



**Network Provider Physician Assistant
Contract Signature Page**

The Office of Management and Enterprise Services Employees Group Insurance Division (EGID), and the Provider, incorporate by reference the terms and conditions of the Network Physician Assistant Contract (Contract) into this Signature Page. EGID and Provider further agree that the effective date of the Contract is the effective date denoted on the copy of the executed Signature Page returned to the Provider. The original of the signed document will remain on file in the office of EGID.

FOR THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT:

FOR EGID:

Name (Typed or Printed)

Diana O'Neal
Deputy Administrator
Employees Group Insurance Division

Signature:

NPI:

Federal Tax ID Number:

Primary Service Address:

Please return the completed Application, Signature Page, and required attachments to:

Office of Management Enterprise Services
Employees Group Insurance Division
ATTN: Network Management
3545 N.W. 58th St., Ste. 600
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
Phone: 405-717-8790 or 844-804-2642
Fax: 405-717-8977

EGID.NetworkManagement@omes.ok.gov