Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998

The Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA) provides protections for individuals who elect breast reconstruction after a mastectomy and requires employers to inform health plan participants annually about this Act. Under WHCRA, group health plans offering mastectomy coverage must also provide certain services relating to the mastectomy. If you have had or are going to have a mastectomy, you may be entitled to certain benefits under WHCRA. For individuals receiving mastectomy-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, for the following:

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

These benefits will be subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under your medical plan.