

IE SHAFFER

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Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998

In 1998, the federal government enacted a law that mandates certain health coverage for breast reconstructive surgery in any health program that provides medical and surgical benefits for mastectomies. This law is the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998. Under this federal legislation, annual notification of this benefit to all members is required.

If a covered person is receiving benefits in connection with a mastectomy and elects to have breast reconstruction along with that mastectomy, the policy must provide in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, coverage for the following:

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

These benefits will be provided subject to deductibles and coinsurance to the same extent as for any illness under your coverage.

All other features and benefits of your program remain the same and are not impacted by this annual notification.

If you should have any questions concerning your benefits under the Welfare Fund, please contact our office and we will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

I.E. Shaffer & Co.
Administrators