KAISER PERMANENTE®

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.
Northern California Region

Combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment of the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. Evidence of Coverage for {Purchaser_Name}

Chiropractic/Acupuncture Plan-$15 Copay/20 Visits
Group ID: {PID} *EOC* Number: {CO_Seq_Nbr} Issue Date: September 15, 2025

Note: This is a sample Evidence of Coverage (EOC) document. EOCs that are issued as part of a specific customer's Group Agreement will differ from this sample. For example, this EOC does not include customer-specific coverage and eligibility information, and the sample EOC may be updated at any time for accuracy, to comply with laws and regulations, or to reflect changes in how coverage is administered. The terms of any contract holder's coverage are governed by the Group Agreement issued to that customer by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.

SAMPLE

January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026

ASH Plans Customer Service Department
Monday through Friday, hours may vary
1-800-678-9133 (TTY users call **711**) toll free
ashlink.com/ash/kp

SAMPLE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Health Plan Benefits and Coverage Matrix 1
Introduction 2
Definitions 2
ASH Participating Providers 3
How to Obtain Services 3
Covered Services 4
Office Visits 4
Laboratory Tests and X-rays 5
Chiropractic Supports and Appliances 5
Second Opinions 5
Emergency and Urgent Services Covered Under this Amendment 5
Exclusions 6
Customer Service 6
Grievances 6

SAMPLE

Health Plan Benefits and Coverage Matrix

THIS MATRIX IS INTENDED TO BE USED TO HELP YOU COMPARE COVERAGE BENEFITS AND IS A SUMMARY ONLY. THE EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE AND PLAN CONTRACT SHOULD BE CONSULTED FOR A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF COVERAGE BENEFITS AND LIMITATIONS.

We cover the Services described below, subject to exclusions described in the "Exclusions" section, only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- You are a Member on the date that you receive the Services
- ASH Plans has determined that the Services are Medically Necessary, except as described in this Amendment
- You receive the Services from ASH Participating Providers or other licensed providers that ASH contracts to provide covered care, except as described in this Amendment

Professional Services (ASH Participating Provider office visits)	**You Pay**
Chiropractic and acupuncture office visits (up to a combined total of 20 visits per 12-month period)	$15 per visit
Other	**You Pay**
X-rays and laboratory tests that are covered Chiropractic Services	No charge
Chiropractic supports and appliances	Amounts in excess of the $50 Allowance

This is a summary of the most frequently asked-about benefits. This chart does not explain benefits, Cost Share, out-of-pocket maximums, exclusions, or limitations, nor does it list all benefits and Cost Share amounts. For a complete explanation, refer to the "Covered Services" and "Exclusions" sections.

SAMPLE

Introduction

This document amends your Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (Health Plan) *EOC* to add coverage for Chiropractic Services and Acupuncture Services as described in this Combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment ("Amendment"). All provisions of the *EOC* apply to coverage described in this document except for the following sections:

- "How to Obtain Services" (except that the "Completion of Services from Non–Plan Providers" section, or for Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members, the "Termination of a Plan Provider's contract and completion of Services" section, does apply to coverage described in this document)
- "Plan Facilities"
- "Emergency Services and Urgent Care"
- "Benefits"

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. contracts with American Specialty Health Plans of California, Inc. ("ASH Plans") to make the network of ASH Participating Providers available to you.

When you need chiropractic care or acupuncture, you have direct access to more than 3,000 licensed chiropractors and more than 2,900 licensed acupuncturists in California. You can obtain covered Services from any ASH Participating Provider without a referral from a Plan Physician. Your Cost Share is due when you receive covered Services.

Definitions

In addition to the terms defined in the "Definitions" section of your Health Plan *EOC*, the following terms, when capitalized and used in any part of this Amendment, have the following meanings:

Acupuncture Services: The stimulation of certain points on or near the surface of the body by the insertion of needles to prevent or modify the perception of pain or to normalize physiological functions and appropriate adjunctive therapies, such as hot/cold packs, infrared heat, or acupressure, when provided during the same course of treatment and in conjunction with acupuncture and when provided by an acupuncturist for the treatment of your Musculoskeletal and Related Disorder, nausea (such as nausea related to chemotherapy, post-surgery nausea, or nausea related to pregnancy), or joint pain (such as lower back, shoulder, or hip joint pain), and headaches.

ASH Participating Provider: One of the following types of providers:

- An acupuncturist who is licensed to provide acupuncture services in California and who has a contract with ASH Plans to provide Medically Necessary Acupuncture Services to you
- A chiropractor who is licensed to provide chiropractic services in California and who has a contract with ASH Plans to provide Medically Necessary Chiropractic Services to you

A list of ASH Participating Providers is available on the ASH Plans website at **ashlink.com/ash/kaisercamedicare** for Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members, or **ashlink.com/ash/kp** for all other Members, or from the ASH Plans Customer Service Department toll free at **1-800-678-9133** (TTY users call **711**). The list of ASH Participating Providers is subject to change at any time, without notice. If you have questions, please call the ASH Plans Customer Service Department.

ASH Plans: American Specialty Health Plans of California, Inc., a California corporation.

Chiropractic Services: Chiropractic services include spinal and extremity manipulation and adjunctive therapies such as ultrasound, therapeutic exercise, or electrical muscle stimulation, when provided during the same course of treatment and in conjunction with chiropractic manipulative services, and other services provided or prescribed by a chiropractor (including laboratory tests, X-rays, and chiropractic supports and appliances) for the treatment of your Musculoskeletal and Related Disorder.

Emergency Acupuncture Services: Covered Acupuncture Services provided for the treatment of a Musculoskeletal and Related Disorder, nausea, or pain, which manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that you could expect the absence of immediate Acupuncture Services to result in serious jeopardy to your health or body functions or organs.

Emergency Chiropractic Services: Covered Chiropractic Services provided for the treatment of a Musculoskeletal and Related Disorder which manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that you could expect the absence of immediate Chiropractic Services to result in serious jeopardy to your health or body functions or organs.

Musculoskeletal and Related Disorders: Conditions with signs and symptoms related to the nervous,

SAMPLE

muscular, and/or skeletal systems. Musculoskeletal and Related Disorders are conditions typically categorized as structural, degenerative, or inflammatory disorders; or biomechanical dysfunction of the joints of the body and/or related components of the muscle or skeletal systems (muscles, tendons, fascia, nerves, ligaments/capsules, discs and synovial structures) and related manifestations or conditions.

Non–Participating Provider: A provider other than an ASH Participating Provider.

Treatment Plan: One of the following, depending on whether the Treatment Plan is for Chiropractic Services or Acupuncture Services:

- The course of treatment for your Musculoskeletal and Related Disorder, which may include laboratory tests, X-rays, chiropractic supports and appliances, and a specific number of visits for chiropractic manipulations (adjustments) and adjunctive therapies that are Medically Necessary Chiropractic Services for you
- The course of treatment for your Musculoskeletal and Related Disorder, nausea, or pain, which will include a specific number of visits for acupuncture (including adjunctive therapies) that are Medically Necessary Acupuncture Services for you

Urgent Acupuncture Services: Acupuncture Services that meet all of the following requirements:

- They are necessary to prevent serious deterioration of your health resulting from an unforeseen illness, injury, or complication of an existing condition, including pregnancy
- They cannot be delayed until you return to the Service Area

Urgent Chiropractic Services: Chiropractic Services that meet all of the following requirements:

- They are necessary to prevent serious deterioration of your health resulting from an unforeseen illness, injury, or complication of an existing condition, including pregnancy
- They cannot be delayed until you return to the Service Area

ASH Participating Providers

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

ASH Plans contracts with ASH Participating Providers and other licensed providers to provide the Services covered under this Amendment (including laboratory tests, X-rays, and chiropractic supports and appliances). You must receive Services covered under this Amendment from an ASH Participating Provider or another licensed provider with which ASH contracts to provide covered care, except for Services covered under "Emergency and Urgent Services Covered Under this Amendment" in the "Covered Services" section and Services that are not available from contracted providers and that are authorized in advance by ASH Plans.

How to Obtain Services

To obtain Services covered under this Amendment call an ASH Participating Provider to schedule an initial examination. If additional Services are required after the initial examination, verification that the Services are Medically Necessary may be required, as described under "Decision time frames" below. Your ASH Participating Provider will request any required medical necessity determinations. An ASH Plans clinician in the same or similar specialty as the provider of Services under review will determine whether the Services are or were Medically Necessary Services.

Decision time frames

The ASH Plans' clinician will make the authorization decision within the time frame appropriate for your condition, but no later than five business days after receiving all of the information (including additional examination and test results) reasonably necessary to make the decision, except that decisions about urgent Services will be made no later than 72 hours after receipt of the information reasonably necessary to make the decision. If ASH Plans needs more time to make the decision because it doesn't have information reasonably necessary to make the decision, or because it has requested consultation by a particular specialist, you and your ASH Participating Provider will be informed in writing about the additional information, testing, or specialist that is needed, and the date that ASH Plans expects to make a decision.

Your ASH Participating Provider will be informed of the decision within 24 hours after the decision is made. If the Services are authorized, your ASH Participating Provider will be informed of the scope of the authorized Services. If ASH Plans does not authorize all of the Services, ASH Plans will send you a written decision and explanation, including the rationale for the decision and the criteria used to make the decision, within two business days after the decision is made. The letter will also include information about your appeal rights, which are

SAMPLE

described in the "Coverage Decisions, Appeals, and Complaints" section of your Health Plan *EOC* for Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Members, and "Dispute Resolution" section of your Health Plan *EOC* for all other Members. Any written criteria that ASH Plans uses to make the decision to authorize, modify, delay, or deny the request for authorization will be made available to you upon request. If you have questions or concerns, please contact ASH Plans or Kaiser Permanente as described under "Customer Service" in this Amendment.

Covered Services

We cover the Services listed in this "Covered Services" section, subject to exclusions described in the "Exclusions" section, only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- You are a Member on the date that you receive the Services
- ASH Plans has determined that the Services are Medically Necessary, except for:
  - the initial examination described under "Office Visits" in this "Covered Services" section
  - Services covered under "Emergency and Urgent Services Covered Under this Amendment" in this "Covered Services" section
- You receive the Services from ASH Participating Providers or other licensed providers with which ASH contracts to provide covered care, except for:
  - Services covered under "Emergency and Urgent Services Covered Under this Amendment" in this "Covered Services" section
  - Services that are not available from ASH Participating Providers or other licensed providers with which ASH contracts to provide covered care and that are authorized in advance by ASH Plans

When you receive covered Services, you must pay the Cost Share listed in this "Covered Services" section. If you receive Services that are not covered under this Amendment, you may be liable for the full price of those Services.

Note: If Charges for Services are less than the Copayment described in this "Covered Services" section, you will pay the lesser amount.

The Cost Share you pay for Services covered under this Amendment does not apply toward any Plan Deductible or Plan Out-of-Pocket Maximum described in your Health Plan *EOC*.

If you have questions about your Cost Share for specific Services that you are scheduled to receive or that your provider orders during a visit or procedure, please call the ASH Plans Customer Service Department toll free at **1-800-678-9133** (TTY users call **711**) weekdays, hours may vary.

Coverage of Acupuncture Services under this Amendment is different from the coverage of acupuncture Services under your Health Plan *EOC*. You do not need a referral to get covered Services under this Amendment, but covered Services and your Cost Share may differ from those under your Health Plan *EOC*. If you receive acupuncture Services for which you have a referral (as described under "Getting a Referral" in the "How to Obtain Services" section of the *EOC*), then unless you tell us otherwise, we will assume that you are using your coverage under your Health Plan *EOC*.

If you are a Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Member, refer to your Health Plan *EOC* for information about the chiropractic Services that we cover in accord with Medicare guidelines, which are separate from the Services covered under this Amendment.

Office Visits

We cover up to a combined total of 20 of the following types of office visits per 12-month period at **a $15 Copayment per visit:**

- **Initial chiropractic examination:** An examination performed by an ASH Participating Provider to determine the nature of your problem (and, if appropriate, to prepare a Treatment Plan), and to provide Medically Necessary Chiropractic Services, which may include an adjustment and adjunctive therapy. We cover an initial examination only if you have not already received covered Chiropractic Services from an ASH Participating Provider in the same 12-month period for your Musculoskeletal and Related Disorder
- **Subsequent chiropractic office visits:** Subsequent ASH Participating Provider office visits for Chiropractic Services that are determined to be Medically Necessary by an ASH Plans clinician. These subsequent office visits may include an adjustment, adjunctive therapy, and a re-examination to assess the need to continue, extend, or change a Treatment Plan
- **Initial acupuncture examination:** An examination performed by an ASH Participating Provider to determine the nature of your problem (and, if appropriate, to prepare a Treatment Plan), and to provide Medically Necessary Acupuncture Services.

SAMPLE

We cover an initial examination only if you have not already received covered Acupuncture Services from an ASH Participating Provider in the same 12-month period for your Musculoskeletal and Related Disorder, nausea, or pain

- **Subsequent acupuncture office visits:** Subsequent ASH Participating Provider office visits for Acupuncture Services that are determined to be Medically Necessary by an ASH Plans clinician, which may include a re-examination to assess the need to continue, extend, or change a Treatment Plan

Each office visit counts toward any visit limit, if applicable.

Laboratory Tests and X-rays

We cover Medically Necessary laboratory tests and X-rays when prescribed as part of covered chiropractic care described under "Office Visits" in this "Covered Services" section at **no charge** when an ASH Participating Provider provides the Services or refers you to another licensed provider with which ASH contracts to provide covered Services.

Chiropractic Supports and Appliances

We provide a **$50 Allowance per 12-month period** toward the ASH Plans fee schedule price for chiropractic appliances listed in this paragraph when the item is prescribed and provided to you by an ASH Participating Provider as part of covered chiropractic care described under "Office Visits" in this "Covered Services" section. If the price of the items in the ASH Plans fee schedule exceeds $50 (the Allowance), you will pay the amount in excess of $50 (and that payment does not apply toward the Plan Out-of-Pocket Maximum described in your Health Plan *EOC*). Covered chiropractic appliances are limited to: elbow supports, back supports (thoracic), cervical collars, cervical pillows, heel lifts, hot or cold packs, lumbar braces and supports, lumbar cushions, orthotics, wrist supports, rib belts, home traction units (cervical or lumbar), ankle braces, knee braces, rib supports, and wrist braces.

Second Opinions

You may request a second opinion in regard to covered Services by contacting another ASH Participating Provider. Your visit to another ASH Participating Provider for a second opinion generally will count toward any visit limit, if applicable. An ASH Participating Provider may also request a second opinion in regard to covered Services by referring you to another ASH Participating Provider in the same or similar specialty. If you are referred by an ASH Participating Provider to another ASH Participating Provider, or you see an ASH Participating Provider for lab work or an X-ray, your visit to the other ASH Participating Provider will not count toward any visit limit. An authorization or denial of your request for a second opinion will be provided in an expeditious manner, as appropriate for your condition. If your request for a second opinion is denied, you will be notified in writing of the reasons for the denial, and of your right to file a grievance as described under "Grievances" in this Amendment.

Emergency and Urgent Services Covered Under this Amendment

Emergency and urgent chiropractic Services

We cover Emergency Chiropractic Services and Urgent Chiropractic Services provided by an ASH Participating Provider or a Non–Participating Provider at **a $15 Copayment per visit**. We do not cover follow-up or continuing care from a Non-Participating Provider unless ASH Plans has authorized the Services in advance. Also, we do not cover Services from a Non-Participating Provider that ASH Plans determines are not Emergency Chiropractic Services or Urgent Chiropractic Services.

Emergency and urgent acupuncture Services

We cover Emergency Acupuncture Services and Urgent Acupuncture Services provided by an ASH Participating Provider or a Non–Participating Provider at **a $15 Copayment per visit**. We do not cover follow-up or continuing care from a Non–Participating Provider unless ASH Plans has authorized the Services in advance. Also, we do not cover Services from a Non-Participating Provider that ASH Plans determines are not Emergency Acupuncture Services or Urgent Acupuncture Services.

How to file a claim

As soon as possible after receiving Emergency Chiropractic Services or Urgent Chiropractic Services or Emergency Acupuncture Services or Urgent Acupuncture Services, you must file an ASH Plans claim form. To request a claim form or for more information, please call ASH Plans toll free at **1-800-678-9133** (TTY users call **711**) or visit the ASH Plans website at **ashlink.com**. You must send the completed claim form to:

ASH Plans
P.O. Box 509002
San Diego, CA 92150-9002

SAMPLE

Exclusions

The items and services listed in this "Exclusions" section are excluded from coverage under this Amendment. (Note: Some items and services listed in this "Exclusions" section may be covered Services under your Health Plan *EOC*. Please refer to your Health Plan *EOC* for details.) These exclusions apply to all Services that would otherwise be covered under this Amendment regardless of whether the services are within the scope of a provider's license or certificate:

- Acupuncture services for conditions other than Musculoskeletal and Related Disorders, nausea, and pain
- Acupuncture performed with reusable needles
- Services provided by an acupuncturist that are not within the scope of licensure for an acupuncturist licensed in California
- For Acupuncture Services, adjunctive therapies unless provided during the same course of treatment and in conjunction with acupuncture
- Services provided by a chiropractor that are not within the scope of licensure for a chiropractor licensed in California
- For Chiropractic Services, adjunctive therapy not associated with spinal, muscle, or joint manipulations
- Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, chiropractic appliances, durable medical equipment, supplies, devices, appliances, and any other item except those listed as covered under "Chiropractic Supports and Appliances" in the "Covered Services" section of this Amendment
- Services for asthma or addiction, such as nicotine addiction
- Hypnotherapy, behavior training, sleep therapy, and weight programs
- Thermography
- Experimental or investigational Services. If coverage for a Service is denied because it is experimental or investigational and you want to appeal the denial, refer to your Health Plan *EOC* for information about the appeal process
- CT scans, MRIs, PET scans, bone scans, nuclear medicine, and any other type of diagnostic imaging or radiology other than X-rays covered under the "Covered Services" section of this Amendment
- Ambulance and other transportation
- Education programs, non-medical self-care or self-help, any self-help physical exercise training, and any related diagnostic testing
- Services for pre-employment physicals or vocational rehabilitation
- Drugs and medicines, including non-legend or proprietary drugs and medicines
- Services you receive outside the state of California, except for Services covered under "Emergency and Urgent Services Covered Under this Amendment" in the "Covered Services" section
- Hospital services, anesthesia, manipulation under anesthesia, and related services
- Dietary and nutritional supplements, such as vitamins, minerals, herbs, herbal products, injectable supplements, and similar products
- Massage therapy
- Maintenance care (services provided to Members whose treatment records indicate that they have reached maximum therapeutic benefit)

Customer Service

If you have a question or concern regarding the Services you received from an ASH Participating Provider or any other licensed provider with which ASH contracts to provide covered Services, you may call the ASH Plans Customer Service Department toll free at **1-800-678-9133** (TTY users call **711**) weekdays, hours may vary, or write ASH Plans at:

ASH Plans
Customer Service Department
P.O. Box 509002
San Diego, CA 92150-9002

Grievances

You can file a grievance with Kaiser Permanente regarding any issue. Your grievance must explain your issue, such as the reasons why you believe a decision was in error or why you are dissatisfied about Services you received. If you are a Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage Member, you may submit your grievance orally or in writing to Kaiser Permanente as described in the "Coverage Decisions, Appeals, and Complaints" section of your Health Plan *EOC.* Otherwise, you may submit your grievance orally or in writing to Kaiser Permanente as described in the "Dispute Resolution" section of your Health Plan *EOC*.

SAMPLE