

Provided by American Specialty Health Plans of California, Inc. (ASH Plans)

# Your Kaiser Permanente CHIROPRACTIC and ACUPUNCTURE benefits



**When you need chiropractic or acupuncture care, follow these simple steps:**

1. Find an ASH Plans Participating Chiropractor or Participating Acupuncturist near you.
  - Online at [ashcompanies.com/kp](http://ashcompanies.com/kp)
  - Or call **1-800-678-9133** or **711** (TTY), weekdays from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Pacific time).
2. Schedule an appointment.
3. Pay for your office visit when you arrive for your appointment.

*(See the reverse for more details.)*

# YOUR KAISER PERMANENTE COMBINED CHIROPRACTIC AND ACUPUNCTURE BENEFIT

Services	Cost Sharing and Office Visit Maximums
<p>Chiropractic Services are covered when a Participating Chiropractor finds that the Services are Medically Necessary to treat or diagnose Neuromusculoskeletal Disorders. Acupuncture Services are covered when a Participating Acupuncturist finds that the Services are Medically Necessary to treat or diagnose Neuromusculoskeletal Disorders, nausea, or pain. You can obtain Services from any ASH Plans Participating Chiropractors and Participating Acupuncturists without a referral from a Kaiser Permanente Plan Physician.</p>	<p><b>Office visit cost share:</b> \$15 copay per visit <b>Office visit limit:</b> Up to a combined total of 30 Chiropractic and Acupuncture visits per calendar year <b>Chiropractic appliance benefit:</b> If the amount of the appliance in the ASH Plans fee schedule exceeds \$50, you will pay the amount in excess of \$50, and that payment will not apply toward any applicable deductible or annual out-of-pocket maximum. Covered chiropractic appliances are limited to: elbow supports, back supports, cervical collars, cervical pillows, heel lifts, hot or cold packs, lumbar braces and supports, lumbar cushions, orthotics, wrist supports, rib belts, home traction units, ankles braces, knee braces, rib supports, and wrist braces.</p>

**Office visits:** Covered Services are limited to Medically Necessary Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services authorized and provided by ASH Plans Participating Chiropractors and Participating Acupuncturists. Each office visit counts toward the calendar year visit limit even if acupuncture or a chiropractic adjustment is not provided during the visit.

**X-rays and laboratory tests:** Medically Necessary X-rays and laboratory tests are covered at no charge when prescribed as part of your chiropractic care by a Participating Chiropractor and provided by an appropriately licensed Participating Provider that has contracted with ASH Plans to provide those services.

## Participating Chiropractors and Acupuncturists

ASH Plans contracts with Participating Chiropractors, Participating Acupuncturists, and other Participating Providers to provide covered Chiropractic Services (including laboratory tests, X-rays, and chiropractic appliances) and covered Acupuncture Services. ASH Plans contracts with Participating Acupuncturists to provide acupuncture care (including adjunctive therapies, such as acupressure, cupping, moxibustion, or breathing techniques, when provided during the same course of treatment and in conjunction with acupuncture). You must receive covered Services from a Participating Provider, except for emergency Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services and Services that are not available from Participating Providers that are previously authorized by ASH Plans. The list of Participating Chiropractors and Acupuncturists is available on the ASH Plans website at [ashcompanies.com/kp](http://ashcompanies.com/kp) or from the ASH Plans Member Services Department at 1-800-678-9133. The list of Participating Chiropractors and Acupuncturists is subject to change at any time without notice.

## How to Obtain Covered Services

To obtain covered Services, call a Participating Chiropractor or Participating Acupuncturist to schedule an initial examination. If additional Services are required, your Participating Chiropractor or Acupuncturist will prepare a Treatment Plan. The ASH Plans Clinical Services Manager will authorize the Treatment Plan for you, as described under "Decision time frames" in the *Combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment*, if the Services are Medically Necessary Chiropractic Services or Medically Necessary Acupuncture Services. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the ASH Plans Member Services Department.

## Second Opinions

If you request a second opinion, it will be provided to you by a Participating Chiropractor or Participating Acupuncturist who is an appropriately qualified chiropractor or acupuncturist (a chiropractor or acupuncturist who is acting within his or her scope of practice and who possesses a clinical background related to the illness or condition associated with the request for a second opinion). To get a second opinion, make an appointment with a Participating Chiropractor or Participating Acupuncturist.

## Your Costs

When you receive covered Services, you must pay your Cost Sharing amount as described in the *Combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment* of your Health Plan *Evidence of Coverage*. The Cost Sharing does not apply toward the annual out-of-pocket maximum described in the Health Plan *Evidence of Coverage*.

## Emergency Chiropractic Services and Emergency Acupuncture Services

Covered Chiropractic Services are those emergency services provided for the treatment of a Neuromusculoskeletal Disorder. Covered Acupuncture Services are those emergency services provided for the treatment of a Neuromusculoskeletal Disorder, nausea, or pain. These conditions must manifest themselves by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, such that a reasonable person could expect the absence of immediate Chiropractic or Acupuncture Services to result in serious jeopardy to your health or body functions or organs.

## Getting Assistance

If you have questions about the Services you can get from an ASH Plans Participating Provider, you may call ASH Plans Member Services at 1-800-678-9133 (TTY users call 711), weekdays from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pacific time.

# YOUR KAISER PERMANENTE COMBINED CHIROPRACTIC AND ACUPUNCTURE BENEFIT

## 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 with Services you received. You may submit your grievance orally or in writing to Kaiser Permanente as described in your Health Plan *Evidence of Coverage*.

## Exclusions and Limitations

- Any Services not provided by a Participating Chiropractor, Participating Acupuncturist, or Participating Provider except as stated in the *Combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment*
- Acupuncture Services for conditions other than Neuromusculoskeletal Disorders, nausea, and pain
- Services for asthma or addiction, such as nicotine addiction
- Hypnotherapy, behavior training, sleep therapy, and weight programs
- Thermography
- Experimental or investigational Services
- CT scans, MRIs, PET scans, bone scans, nuclear medicine, and any other types of diagnostic imaging or radiology other than X-rays covered under the "Covered Services" section of your *Combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment*
- Ambulance and other transportation
- Education programs, nonmedical self-care or self-help, any self-help physical exercise training, and any related diagnostic testing
- Services for pre-employment physicals or vocational rehabilitation
- Air conditioners, air purifiers, therapeutic mattresses, chiropractic appliances, durable medical equipment, supplies, devices, appliances, and any other item except those listed as covered under your Health Plan *Evidence of Coverage*
- Drugs and medicines, including non-legend or proprietary drugs and medicines
- Services you receive outside the state of California, except as stated in the *combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment*.
- Hospital services, anesthesia, manipulation under anesthesia, and related services
- For Chiropractic Services, adjunctive therapy not associated with spinal, muscle, or joint manipulations
- For Acupuncture Services, adjunctive therapies unless provided during the same course of treatment and in conjunction with acupuncture
- Dietary and nutritional supplements, such as vitamins, minerals, herbs, herbal products, injectable supplements, and similar products
- Massage therapy
- Services provided by a chiropractor that are not within the scope of licensure for a chiropractor licensed in California
- Services provided by an acupuncturist that are not within the scope of licensure for an acupuncturist licensed in California
- Maintenance care (services provided to Members whose treatment records indicate that they have reached maximum therapeutic benefit)

## Definitions

**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 (including adjunctive therapies, such as acupressure, cupping, moxibustion, or breathing techniques, when provided during the same course of treatment and in conjunction with acupuncture) when provided by an acupuncturist for the treatment of your Neuromusculoskeletal Disorder, nausea (such as nausea related to chemotherapy, postsurgical pain, or pregnancy), or pain (such as lower back pain, shoulder pain, joint pain, or headaches).

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

**Chiropractic Services:** Services provided or prescribed by a chiropractor (including laboratory tests, X-rays, and chiropractic appliances) for the treatment of your Neuromusculoskeletal Disorder.

**Neuromusculoskeletal Disorders:** Conditions with associated signs and symptoms related to the nervous, muscular, or skeletal systems. Neuromusculoskeletal Disorders are conditions typically categorized as structural, degenerative, or inflammatory disorders, or biomechanical dysfunction of the joints of the body or related components of the motor unit (muscles, tendons, fascia, nerves, ligaments/capsules, discs, and synovial structures), and related neurological manifestations or conditions.

**Participating Acupuncturist:** 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 list of Participating Acupuncturists is available on the ASH Plans website at [ashcompanies.com/kp](http://ashcompanies.com/kp) or from the ASH Plans Member Services Department toll free at **1-800-678-9133** (TTY users call **711**). The list of Participating Acupuncturists is subject to change at any time, without notice. If you have questions, please call the ASH Plans Member Services Department.

**Participating Chiropractor:** 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 Participating Chiropractors is available on the ASH Plans website at [ashcompanies.com/kp](http://ashcompanies.com/kp) or from the ASH Plans Member Services Department at **1-800-678-9133** (TTY users call **711**). The list of Participating Chiropractors is subject to change at any time, without notice. If you have questions, please call the ASH Plans Member Services Department.

**Participating Provider:** A Participating Chiropractor, Participating Acupuncturist, or any licensed provider with which ASH Plans contracts to provide covered care, including laboratory tests or X-rays that are covered chiropractic care.

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

- A proposed course of treatment for your Neuromusculoskeletal Disorder, which may include laboratory tests, X-rays, chiropractic appliances, and a specific number of visits for chiropractic manipulations, adjustments, and therapies that are Medically Necessary Chiropractic Services for you
- A proposed course of treatment for your Neuromusculoskeletal Disorder, nausea, or pain, which will include a specific number of visits for acupuncture (including adjunctive therapies such as acupressure, cupping, moxibustion, or breathing techniques when provided during the same course of treatment and in conjunction with acupuncture) that are Medically Necessary Acupuncture Services for you

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This is a summary and is intended to highlight only the most frequently asked questions about the chiropractic and acupuncture benefit, including cost shares. Please refer to the *Combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment of the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., Evidence of Coverage* for a detailed description of the chiropractic and acupuncture benefits, including exclusions and limitations, emergency Chiropractic Services, and emergency Acupuncture Services.

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (Health Plan) contracts with American Specialty Health Plans of California, Inc. (ASH Plans) to make the ASH Plans network of Participating Chiropractors and Participating Acupuncturists available to you. You can obtain covered Services from any Participating Chiropractor or Participating Acupuncturist without a referral from a Plan Physician. Cost Sharing is due when you receive covered Services. Please see the definitions section of your *Combined Chiropractic and Acupuncture Services Amendment of the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., Evidence of Coverage* for terms you should know.