

Effective: 1/1/2000

Revised: 2/2005

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Reviewed/No Updates: 1/28/13, 2/13/14, 2/12/15, 2/11/16, 2/9/17,
2/8/18, 2/14/19, 2/13/20, 2/11/21, 2/17/22, 2/2/23, 2/8/24, 2/20/25

GENETIC INFORMATION-CONFIDENTIALITY AND USE

Genetic Characteristic means either of the following:

1. Any scientifically or medically identifiable gene or chromosome, or combination or alteration thereof, that is known to be a cause of a disease or disorder in a person or his or her offspring, or that is determined to be associated with a statistically increased risk of development of a disease or disorder, and that is presently not associated with any symptoms of any disease or disorder.
2. Any inherited characteristics that may derive from the individual or family member, that are known to be a cause of a disease or disorder in a person or his or her offspring, or that are determined to be associated with a statistically increased risk of development of a disease or disorder, and that are presently not associated with any symptoms of any disease or disorder.

Confidentiality of Genetic Information

Genetic information is confidential. VCHCP staff may not disclose the results of a test for a genetic characteristic to a third party in a manner that identifies or provides identifying characteristics of the person or person's offspring to whom the test results apply, unless a *Consent for Release of Member/Patient Information* is signed by the member, the member's conservator or the member's parent or guardian, if the member is a minor child.

Use of Genetic Information

Genetic information should only be sought or used by Plan staff to arrange for the provision of covered benefits to members. An individual's medical condition includes his/her genetic characteristics, as defined above.

NOTE: The plan does not discriminate in employment, enrollment, cancellation, non-renewal or in the provision of covered benefits based on an individual's medical condition or genetic characteristics or those indicated for the person's offspring.

Attachment: None

References:

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California Civil Code Section 56.17
Health and Safety Code Section 1374.7
Government Code, Section 12926.

History:

Reviewers: R. Ashby MD, P. Neumann Ins. Adm; Date: 01/01/01
Reviewed/Revised: S. Haas, MD & C. Wilhelmy MD; Date: Aug 2005
Committee Reviews: UM: August 8, 2005; QAC: August 23, 2005
Reviewed/Revised: Albert Reeves, MD; Date: 11/1/11
Committee Reviews: UM: November 10, 2011; QAC: November 22, 2011
Reviewed/No Changes: Albert Reeves, MD; Date: 4/17/12
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Reviewed/No Changes: Albert Reeves, MD; Date: 01/28/13
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Reviewed/No Changes: Catherine Sanders, MD
Committee Reviews: UM: February 13, 2014; QAC: February 25, 2014
Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD
Committee Review: UM: February 12, 2015; QAC February 24, 2015
Reviewed/No Updates: Faustine Dela Cruz, RN & Catherine Sanders, MD
Committee Review: UM: February 11, 2016; QAC: February 23, 2016
Reviewed/No Updates by: Catherine Sanders, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
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Reviewed/No Updates by: Catherine Sanders, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
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Reviewed/No Updates by: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
Committee Review: UM: February 13, 2020; QAC: February 25, 2020
Reviewed/No Updates by: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
Committee Review: UM: February 11, 2021; QAC: February 23, 2021
Reviewed/No Updates by: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
Committee Review: UM: February 17, 2022; QAC: February 22, 2022
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**Medical Policy: GENETIC INFORMATION-
CONFIDENTIALITY AND USE**

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Revision Date	Content Revised (Yes/No)	Contributors	Review/Revision Notes
2/9/17	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/8/18	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/14/19	No	Catherine Sanders, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/13/20	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/11/21	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/17/22	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/2/23	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/8/24	No	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Annual Review
2/20/25	Yes	Howard Taekman, MD; Robert Sterling, MD	Grammar changes. Added “the member’s conservator” under confidentiality of Genetic Information