

NAME:
REGARDING:

SS#:

Bakers Union and FELRA Health and Welfare Fund

EMPLOYER: Giant
DATE OF HIRE: September 11, 2003
PLAN: 1

LOCAL: 118
STATUS: Benefits Terminated,
May 31, 2013

ISSUE: Hospital/Medical – Nonparticipating Provider

#M13/145-9232

FUND RULE:

"IMPORTANT REMINDER

Starting on September 1, 2008, you MUST use a doctor, hospital or other health care provider who is in the CIGNA network...."
(Quoted from the Reminder Notice mailed to all participants on August 21, 2008)

"You Must Use A Doctor/Hospital In The CIGNA Shared Administration Network For Medical Coverage

Before you make an appointment to see a doctor (whether a general practitioner, OB/GYN, pediatrician, etc.), and before scheduling any non-emergency hospital procedure (inpatient or outpatient), ***you must be sure the doctor and/or hospital is a CIGNA Shared Administration provider. If you don't use a CIGNA provider, services will not be covered and you will have to pay the bill.*** It doesn't matter if you make your appointment months or a couple of days ahead, you still need to check again on the day of the visit to be sure he/she is still in the CIGNA Shared Administration network.

Locating Providers

To locate the most current providers in the CIGNA network, log on to its website www.cignasharedadministration.com. The names of providers are updated regularly. You can also call CIGNA at (800) 768-4695."

(Quoted from the Bakers Union & FELRA "For Your Benefit" newsletter, January 2013, Page 3, mailed to the participant on February 6, 2013)

SUMMARY: Date(s) of Service: May 30, 2013
 Received: June 17, 2013
 Denied: June 18, 2013
 Appeal Received: October 21, 2013

The **participant's spouse** is appealing for payment of an anesthesia claim that was denied. The participant's spouse states, "As you are aware, the anesthesiologists do not see patients in an office setting but they meet them in an operating room environment which does not afford the patient or the anesthesiologist an opportunity to determine the insurance benefits and coverage. I chose an ambulatory surgery facility, Advanced Surgery Center, for my procedure and the procedure was performed by an in-network surgeon, Dr. Vinh Tran."

Fund records indicate the participant's spouse had hand surgery performed by Dr. Vinh Tran (a participating surgeon), at Advanced Surgery Center of Bethesda (a nonparticipating facility). FOAA Anesthesia Services ("Fair Oaks Anesthesia Associates") submitted a claim for anesthesia during the participant's spouse's surgical procedure. Precision Medical Products also submitted a claim for the purchase of a pneumatic pressure appliance and rental of a pneumatic compression device on this date. The claim submitted by Dr. Tran was processed and paid, up to the limits of the Plan. The claims submitted by FOAA Anesthesia Services, Advanced Surgery Center of Bethesda, and Precision Medical Products were denied because they do not participate with CIGNA.

Note: CIGNA verified with the Fund office on October 29, 2013 that FOAA Anesthesia Services, Advanced Surgery Center of Bethesda, and Precision Medical Products do not participate.

ACTION: Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Tabled ☐

COMMENTS:

