



Department of Energy

Brookhaven Site Office

P.O. Box 5000

Upton, New York 11973

Mr. Robert Lincoln
Brookhaven Science Associates, LLC
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Upton, New York 11973

Dear Mr. Lincoln

SUBJECT: APPROVAL FOR MODIFICATION OF HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Reference: Letter from R. Lincoln, BSA to F. Fernandez, SC-BHSO, Subject: Modification of healthcare programs due to COVID-19, dated April 3, 2020.

This is in response to Brookhaven Science Associates (BSA's) request on April 3, 2020 regarding approval for temporary modifications of healthcare programs due to COVID-19 pandemic. Contract clause H.21 (d) (1) states no presumption of allowability will exist when the Contractor implements a new benefit plan or makes changes to existing benefit plans that increase costs or are contrary to Departmental policy or written instruction or until the Contracting Officer makes a determination of cost allowability for reimbursement for new or changed benefit plans. Please note that all requests proposals related to COVID-19 must be sent to DOE Head of Contracting Activity (HCA) for approval.

Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) proposes to expand the coverage of all four Aetna plans to include coronavirus testing and the related consultative visits (including telemedicine) with a healthcare provider.

BNL proposes to expand the coverage of all four Aetna plans to provide preventive measures such as "item, service, or immunization that is intended to prevent or mitigate" the coronavirus, without cost sharing.

The changes would apply to insured, self-insured and grandfathered plans. This means that BNL must provide such coverage through its self-insured Medical Plan through Aetna without cost sharing (deductibles, copayment, coinsurance), preauthorization or medical management requirements.

BNL proposes to provide for certain over-the-counter medicines and drugs, without a prescription, and also reimburse tax free the purchase of menstrual products through their HSA (Aetna Plan 4), health care flexible spending accounts, and health reimbursement arrangements.

Mr. Lincoln

-2-

The HCA approved BNL's request for modification to four medical plans through Aetna: three Point of Service (POS) programs and a High-Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) with a Health Savings Accounts (HSA) listed above. Please note, that the HCA did not approve any benefit change associated with treatment as mentioned in the referenced letter.

If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Loh, of my staff, at extension 5408.

Sincerely,

Fausto Fernandez
Contracting Officer
Director, Business Division

cc: M. Davis, SC-CSC
J. Loh, SC-BHSO
D. DiMeglio, BSA