ORGAN/TISSUE DONATION

It is the policy of the Ventura County Health Care Plan (“VCHCP”) to encourage individuals to communicate their intention to donate their organs with their family members. Family members often must make a decision to donate an individual’s organs in an emergency setting and within a limited time frame. With foreknowledge of the individual’s intent, a family is able to facilitate a donation at the time of death. An increase in organ donations is necessary to relieve the Nation’s problem of organ shortages. Approximately 6,000 people die each year waiting for a transplant.

Information regarding the importance of organ donations shall be made available to all members. A notice shall be made in the Combined Evidence of Coverage and Disclosure Form (“EOC”) for each benefit plan. In addition, articles in the VCHCP newsletter, Health Coverage News shall periodically reinforce the significance of this issue.

All reasonable procurement costs for an organ donated to a VCHCP member will be covered by VCHCP, under the terms of VCHCP’s contract with United Resource Network. For Healthy Families Program members, these services may be covered by CCS (California Children’s Services).

For additional information about organ/tissue donation coverage, refer to the EOC corresponding to the member’s benefit plan.

A. Attachments:
Additional information is provided in Ventura County Medical Center’s Administrative Policy

B. References:
No. 100.048, which is attached hereto.

C. History:

Reviewers: Patricia Neumann Insurance Service Administrator & Richard O. Ashby MD, Medical Director; Date: September 1999
Reviewed/Revised: David Chernof, Medical Director; Date: Feb 2005
Committee Review: QAC: February 22, 2005
Reviewed/Revised by Albert Reeves, MD; Date: November 1, 2011
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Reviewed/No Changes: Albert Reeves, MD; Date: April 17, 2012
Medical Policy: **Organ/Tissue Donation**

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Reviewed/No Changes: Albert Reeves, MD; Date: January 28, 2013  
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Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD  
Reviewed/No Updates by: Faustine Dela Cruz, RN & Catherine Sanders, MD  
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Committee Review: UM: February 14, 2019; QAC: February 26, 2019

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