

Serious Health Conditions

A “serious health condition” means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves one of the following:

1. Inpatient Care

Inpatient care (i.e., an overnight stay) in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility, including any period of incapacity or subsequent treatment in connection with or consequent to such inpatient care.

2. Incapacity of More Than 3 Consecutive Days Plus Continuing

Treatment by a Health Care Provider A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days (including any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition), that also involves:

- a. Treatment two or more times by a health care provider, by a nurse or physician’s assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider, or by a provider of health care services (e.g., physical therapist) under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider; OR
- b. Treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider (e.g., a course of prescription medication, or therapy requiring special equipment, to resolve or alleviate the health condition).
Note: This does not include taking over-the-counter medications or activities that can be initiated without a visit to a health care provider (e.g., bed rest, exercise, drinking fluids).

3. Pregnancy (only if exhausted PDL and/or FMLA)

A period of incapacity due to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions. This includes severe morning sickness and prenatal care.

4. Chronic Conditions Requiring Treatment

A chronic condition which:

- a. Requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care provider, or by a nurse or physician’s assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider;
- b. Continues over an extended period of time (including recurring episodes of a single underlying condition); and
- c. May cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity (e.g., asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.).

5. Permanent/Long-Term Conditions Requiring Supervision

A period of incapacity that is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by, a health care provider. Examples include Alzheimer’s, a severe stroke, or the terminal stages of a disease.

6. Multiple Treatments (Non-Chronic Conditions)

Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery therefrom) by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such as cancer (chemotherapy, radiation, etc.) severe arthritis (physical therapy), or kidney disease (dialysis).