The Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA) Notice.

The Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 requires group health plans to make certain benefits available to participants who have undergone a mastectomy. In particular, a plan must offer mastectomy patients benefits for:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance
- Prostheses
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy including lymphedema

The Fallon Health Plans and The Blue Cross Blue Shield Plans comply with these requirements. Benefits for these items generally are comparable to those provided under The Fallon Health Plans and The Blue Cross Blue Shield Plans for similar types of medical services and supplies. Of course, the extent to which any of these items is appropriate following mastectomy is a matter to be determined by the patient and her physician. The Fallon Health Plans and The Blue Cross Blue Shield Plans neither impose penalties (for example, reducing or limiting reimbursements) nor provide incentives to induce attending providers to provide care inconsistent with these requirements. Your Plan’s usual deductibles, co-pays and co-insurance apply to medical and surgical benefits you receive after mastectomy. If you would like more information about WHCRA required coverage, you can contact the plan administrator, Fallon Health at 1-800-868-5200 or the plan administrator, Blue Cross Blue Shield at 1-800-217-7878.