

erated in the individual market after June 30, 1997, regardless of when a period of creditable coverage occurs, see section 111(b) of Pub. L. 104-191, set out as a note under section 300gg-41 of this title.

§ 300gg-63. General exceptions

(a) Exception for certain benefits

The requirements of this part shall not apply to any health insurance coverage in relation to its provision of excepted benefits described in section 300gg-91(c)(1) of this title.

(b) Exception for certain benefits if certain conditions met

The requirements of this part shall not apply to any health insurance coverage in relation to its provision of excepted benefits described in paragraph (2), (3), or (4) of section 300gg-91(c) of this title if the benefits are provided under a separate policy, certificate, or contract of insurance.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVII, § 2763, formerly § 2747, as added Pub. L. 104-191, title I, § 111(a), Aug. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 1987; renumbered § 2763, Pub. L. 104-204, title VI, § 605(a)(2), Sept. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 2941.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable with respect to health insurance coverage offered, sold, issued, renewed, in effect, or operated in the individual market after June 30, 1997, regardless of when a period of creditable coverage occurs, see section 111(b) of Pub. L. 104-191, set out as a note under section 300gg-41 of this title.

PART C—DEFINITIONS; MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 300gg-91. Definitions

(a) Group health plan

(1) Definition

The term “group health plan” means an employee welfare benefit plan (as defined in section 3(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 [29 U.S.C. 1002(1)]) to the extent that the plan provides medical care (as defined in paragraph (2)) and including items and services paid for as medical care) to employees or their dependents (as defined under the terms of the plan) directly or through insurance, reimbursement, or otherwise. Except for purposes of part C of title XI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d et seq.), such term shall not include any qualified small employer health reimbursement arrangement (as defined in section 9831(d)(2) of title 26).

(2) Medical care

The term “medical care” means amounts paid for—

(A) the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease, or amounts paid for the purpose of affecting any structure or function of the body,

(B) amounts paid for transportation primarily for and essential to medical care referred to in subparagraph (A), and

(C) amounts paid for insurance covering medical care referred to in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(3) Treatment of certain plans as group health plan for notice provision

A program under which creditable coverage described in subparagraph (C), (D), (E), or (F) of section 2701(c)(1)¹ is provided shall be treated as a group health plan for purposes of applying section 2701(e).¹

(b) Definitions relating to health insurance

(1) Health insurance coverage

The term “health insurance coverage” means benefits consisting of medical care (provided directly, through insurance or reimbursement, or otherwise and including items and services paid for as medical care) under any hospital or medical service policy or certificate, hospital or medical service plan contract, or health maintenance organization contract offered by a health insurance issuer.

(2) Health insurance issuer

The term “health insurance issuer” means an insurance company, insurance service, or insurance organization (including a health maintenance organization, as defined in paragraph (3)) which is licensed to engage in the business of insurance in a State and which is subject to State law which regulates insurance (within the meaning of section 514(b)(2) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 [29 U.S.C. 1144(b)(2)]). Such term does not include a group health plan.

(3) Health maintenance organization

The term “health maintenance organization” means—

(A) a Federally qualified health maintenance organization (as defined in section 300e(a) of this title),

(B) an organization recognized under State law as a health maintenance organization, or

(C) a similar organization regulated under State law for solvency in the same manner and to the same extent as such a health maintenance organization.

(4) Group health insurance coverage

The term “group health insurance coverage” means, in connection with a group health plan, health insurance coverage offered in connection with such plan.

(5) Individual health insurance coverage

The term “individual health insurance coverage” means health insurance coverage offered to individuals in the individual market, but does not include short-term limited duration insurance.

(c) Excepted benefits

For purposes of this subchapter, the term “excepted benefits” means benefits under one or more (or any combination thereof) of the following:

(1) Benefits not subject to requirements

(A) Coverage only for accident, or disability income insurance, or any combination thereof.

(B) Coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance.

¹ See References in Text note below.