Objective:
I. To ensure that Health Share/Tuality Health Alliance (THA) members are allowed direct access to specific healthcare services as mandated by Oregon statutes and directed by contracted health plans.

Policy:
I. THA does not require a practitioner referral for “self-referral services”, as defined by contracted health plans. Self-referral services may include, but are not limited to the following:
   • Biennial eye exams;
   • Annual diabetic retinal exams;
   • Mental health care;
   • Chemical dependency care;
   • Annual gynecological exams and some gynecological care; and
   • Obstetrical care.

II. ORS 743.845 provides for coverage of women’s healthcare services and allows direct access to a women’s healthcare provider, without practitioner referral, for all female members.
   a. Associated covered services include the following:
      • Annual preventive women’s health examinations;
      • Medically necessary women’s health exam follow-up visits; and
      • Pregnancy care.
   b. Women’s healthcare providers include:
      • Obstetricians;
      • Gynecologists;
      • Advance registered nurse practitioner specialists in women’s health;
      • Physician assistants specializing in women’s health; and
      • Certified nurse mid-wives.

III. ORS 743A.100 mandates coverage for annual mammograms for asymptomatic women aged 40 years and over, with or without referral from a primary care practitioner or other provider.
   a. Mammograms for the purpose of diagnosis in symptomatic or high-risk women will be covered at any time upon authorized referral from the woman’s healthcare provider.

IV. ORS 743A.104 mandates coverage for annual pelvic examinations and Pap smear examinations for women aged 18 to 64 years, and at any time upon referral from the woman’s healthcare provider.
Subject: Self-Referrals

V. When ordered by the women’s healthcare provider, the following services do not require primary care practitioner referral:
   - Mammograms, x-rays, and ultrasounds;
   - Complete blood counts, blood glucose tests, pregnancy tests, and Rh factor tests;
   - Antibody tests (e.g., tests for HIV or measles);
   - Urinalysis, urine chemistry tests, and urine cultures;
   - Pathology for biopsies; and
   - Follow-up care for conditions/diseases that are discovered during the course of a woman’s healthcare visit, as long as the care is within the associated practitioner’s scope of practice.

VI. For self-referrals, members must use an assigned facility or participating provider as determined by THA.

VII. By statute, THA/Oregon Health Plan members are allowed to freely choose their family planning services provider. Family planning services are billed directly to the Division of Medical Assistance Programs (DMAP).

References: Health Share RAE Participation Agreement
- Oregon Health Authority Health Plan Services Contract 2013 (Exhibit B Part 42)
- ORS 743.845
- ORS 743A.100
- ORS743A.104

Formulated: December 2000

Reviewed: March 2003
- July 2011
- February 2013

Revised: March 2002
- April 2004
- February 2006
- June 2009
- April 2015