relevant to your case. Be sure to include your contact information and the details of your complaint or appeal.

It's also important to be patient. Northwind Health Plus typically responds to complaints and appeals within 30 days. However, some cases may take longer to resolve.

Finally, be sure to keep a record of all correspondence with Northwind Health Plus. This includes any phone calls, emails, or letters you send or receive. This will help ensure that your complaint or appeal is being addressed in a timely manner.

## OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PLAN

## **Conformity With The Law**

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PLAN – CONFORMITY WITH THE LAW

Northwind Health Plus is in compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). This plan is also compliant with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA).

Under ERISA, the plan must provide certain benefits, such as protection from discrimination, vesting rights, and reasonable notice of plan changes. The plan must also provide detailed information to participants, such as a Summary Plan Description (SPD), which outlines plan provisions and benefits.

Under the ACA, Northwind Health Plus must provide essential health benefits, such as ambulatory patient services, hospitalization, maternity and newborn care, preventive and wellness services, mental health and substance abuse services, and prescription drugs. The plan also must provide coverage for preventive services without cost sharing.

Under MHPAEA, the plan must provide comparable benefits for mental health and substance abuse services as it does for medical and surgical benefits. This includes covering services that are medically necessary, such as inpatient and outpatient services, medication management, and psychological and psychosocial therapies.

It is important to note that the plan may not provide coverage or impose any limits or exclusions that are not in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Additionally, the plan may not discriminate against individuals based on their medical condition or health status. Individuals who feel they have been discriminated against should contact the Department of Labor, who can investigate the issue.

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