

(6) A hospice as defined in § 19-901 of [this title] THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE;

(7) A facility that provides radiological or other diagnostic imagery services;

(8) A medical laboratory as defined in § 17-201 of [this article] THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE; or

(9) An alcohol abuse and drug abuse treatment program as defined in § 8-403 of [this article] THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

(F) "HEALTH CARE SERVICE" MEANS ANY HEALTH OR MEDICAL PROCEDURE OR SERVICE RENDERED BY A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER THAT:

(1) PROVIDES TESTING, DIAGNOSIS, OR TREATMENT OF A HUMAN DISEASE OR DYSFUNCTION; OR

(2) DISPENSES DRUGS, MEDICAL DEVICES, MEDICAL APPLIANCES, OR MEDICAL GOODS FOR THE TREATMENT OF A HUMAN DISEASE OR DYSFUNCTION.

[(e) "Utilization review" means a system for reviewing the appropriate and efficient allocation of hospital resources and services given or proposed to be given to a patient or group of patients.]

[(f)] (G) "Private review agent" means:

(1) A nonhospital-affiliated person or entity performing utilization review that is either affiliated with, under contract with, or acting on behalf of:

(i) A Maryland business entity; or

(ii) A third party that provides or administers hospital benefits to citizens of this State, including:

1. A health maintenance organization issued a certificate of authority in accordance with TITLE 19, Subtitle 7 of [this title] THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE; or

2. A health insurer, nonprofit health service plan, health insurance service organization, or preferred provider organization authorized to offer health insurance policies or contracts in this State in accordance with the Insurance Article; or

(2) Any person or entity including a hospital-affiliated person performing utilization review for the purpose of making claims or payment decisions on behalf of the employer's or labor union's health insurance plan under an employee assistance program for employees other than the employees:

(i) Employed by the hospital; or

(ii) Employed by a business wholly owned by the hospital.