

What's Happening in Tennessee Managed Care? **January, 2009**

Commercial Plans

BlueCrossBlueShield of Tennessee

Effective December 31, 2008, BCBS TN enhanced *Blue Access*, a web-based administrative service, now providers have easier access to claim status, benefits, status of submitted inquiries and the ability to correct information for claim re-submission.

Effective January 1, 2009, BCBS TN discontinued the “*Network C*” product, members have been transitioned to Network P (Preferred). This does not affect the Provider’s Agreement.

By contacting your local BCBS TN Representative you can receive the latest policy changes and / or claim updates via the “***BlueAlert***”, a provider news flash distributed monthly.

ChoiceCare / Humana

Humana acquisition of Cariten Healthcare was completed on 12/31/08. It was confirmed that there are no changes in your relationship with Cariten or Humana until further notice.

Aetna Workers’ Compensation

Be alert for the *AWCA Participating Letter*, “no action” means that the W.C. reimbursement could be as low as the commercial rates and not the W.C. State Mandated Fee Schedule.

TennCare

A Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee Reminder: Federal Regs require that Volunteer State Health Plan maintain “*Disclosure of Ownership and Control Interest*” forms. If you have not completed the form, please call 800-924-7141. Or the form is available at <http://www.bcbst.com/providers/disclosure.pdf>. Non-compliance will be reported to CMS and may result in payment delays and possible recoupment of Medicaid monies.

Effective January 1, 2009 BlueCare and AmeriChoice implemented the new Medicaid initiative in East Tennessee, members have been notified of the change in managed care organizations via a mass mailing.

Effective December 31, 2008 PHP TennCare discontinued services in the TennCare program. Members were transitioned to either BlueCare and AmeriChoice.

Medicare

November 1, 2008 CMS announced the final updates for the *2009 Medicare Payment System* for ASCs, to include a new geographical wage index. View the final Medicare payment changes at <http://www.ascassociation.org>.

By 2011, all Medicare fiscal intermediaries will be re-assigned to a new Medicare Administrative Contractor, Tennessee time-line for the transition is to be announced.