Looking for information related to health care reform? Visit bluecrossma.com/straightanswers for updates on recent activity.

Get the IAI in Your Inbox

Go to bluecrossma.com/subscribe and provide or update your email address. Next, enter your account number and unique contact ID number listed below.

Account Number: <Account_Number>
Unique Contact ID: <Contact_ID>
Dear Valued Customer:

Welcome to our Important Administrative Information October 2017 newsletter. We provide the latest health care industry news that affects you. This edition’s topics include:

• 2018 Plan Updates
• Coming in 2018: Updates to Our Prescription Coverage
• New Information Security Certification
• Low-Cost Generic Drug Benefit
• Pharmacy Benefit Update for Statins, Effective December 1, 2017
• Changes to Imaging and Sleep Management Programs for Medicare Advantage Members
• Get Your Flu Shot
• The Ovia™ Pregnancy App Helps Guide Members Through Their 9-Month Adventure
• ACA Member Months Coverage Report Available for ASC Accounts
• We Surpassed Medical Loss Ratio Requirements for 2016

As always, if you have any questions, please contact your account executive.

Sincerely,

Debbie Williams
Senior Vice President, Sales and Account Service

2018 Plan Updates

Beginning January 1, 2018, we’ll make some changes to our health plans. These changes will ensure that our plans continue to meet the ongoing requirements of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), while continuing to provide high-quality, affordable health coverage options. We’re also excited to soon offer new plan options.

To see how these changes will affect you, please review the enclosed Product and Benefit Updates brochure.

You can also find, compare, and download plan documents at bluecrossma.com/plan-comparison.

If you have questions, please contact your account executive or broker.

Coming in 2018: Updates to Our Prescription Coverage

Beginning January 1, 2018, we’re making changes to medications we cover for medical plans with pharmacy benefits, and Medex® plans with the three-tier pharmacy benefit. These changes affect:

• Medications switching tiers
• Medications that are no longer covered
• Quality Care Dosing Limits
• Pharmacy Medical Policies

Complete details about these changes will be available October 15 on bluecrossma.com/employer in the Plan Updates section under What’s New.

New Information Security Certification

We’re proud to announce that our main systems processing, hosting and exchanging members’ personal health information have earned Certified status for information security by the Health Information Trust (HITRUST) Alliance. This validates our commitment to meeting key health care regulations and protecting our members’ sensitive private health care information. Learn more at bluecrossma.com/iai.
Low-Cost Generic Drug Benefit

Did you know that if your plan includes a mail service pharmacy benefit, covered employees can get a 90-day supply of select generic medications for only $9 when filled through Express Scripts?

For more information on our mail service pharmacy or to view a list of $9 generic medications, visit bluecrossma.com/mail-service-pharmacy.

Pharmacy Benefit Update for Statins, Effective December 1, 2017

To comply with new United States Preventive Services Task Force recommendations, starting December 1, 2017, the following statin medications won’t require a cost-share for employees with no history of cardiovascular disease (CVD) (for example, symptomatic coronary artery disease or ischemic stroke) between the ages of 40-75, who have one or more CVD factors (dyslipidemia, diabetes, hypertension, or smoking), and have a calculated 10-year risk of cardiovascular event 10% or greater.

The following medications will be covered at no cost (qualifying members only):

- Atorvastatin 10-20 mg
- Fluvastatin IR and XL 20-80 mg
- Lovastatin 10-40 mg
- Pravastatin 10-80 mg
- Rosuvastatin 5-10 mg
- Simvastatin 5-40 mg

To learn more, access the full article at bluecrossma.com/iai.

Changes to Imaging and Sleep Management Programs for Medicare Advantage Members

We’re improving the management of imaging and sleep services for our Medicare HMO and Medicare PPO members in an effort to increase the quality and efficiency of these services. On January 1, 2018, we’ll require prior authorization for all imaging and sleep services included in our programs. AIM Specialty Health (AIM) will manage authorizations.

AIM has experience managing imaging and sleep services for our members, as well as for most other Blue Plans with approximately 42 million lives under management across the country.

To learn more, access the full article at bluecrossma.com/iai.

Get Your Flu Shot

The flu can best be prevented with the current flu vaccine, which is updated annually to most closely match the recent viral strains. We make it easy for members and their families to get vaccinated. This flu season, we’re offering the vaccination at a range of provider, workplace (if administered using a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts contracted vendor), and pharmacy-based locations. Coverage depends on the plan type and the nature of the care received.

For the 2017-2018 flu season, the CDC recommends against using the nasal spray flu vaccine, commonly supplied as FluMist. As a result, Blue Cross Blue Shield Massachusetts won’t cover this type of vaccine for this flu season.

For more flu-related information, visit bluecrossma.com/flu.
We’re partnering with Ovia Health™, an independently owned and operated company, to share Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts maternity benefit information with your employees through the Ovia Pregnancy app.

Once your employees download the Ovia Pregnancy app and select Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts as their health plan, they can:

- Get timely reminders about Blue Cross maternity benefits, such as Find a Doctor & Estimate Costs tool, call-in maternity support, and a no-cost breast pump and reimbursement for childbirth classes that may be included in their plans
- Call a Blue Cross Nurse Care Manager from within the app when high-risk symptoms or conditions are reported
- Track symptoms, nutrition, weight changes, and doctor appointments
- Log milestones and learn about baby’s weekly development

To learn more about the Ovia Pregnancy app and our other maternity tools and resources available to employees and their families, visit bluecrossma.com/maternity.

All our Administrative Services Contract (ASC) accounts will have access to a tax reporting service, which follows the Affordable Care Act (ACA) guidelines. As part of our continual efforts to provide service enhancements, we’ll once again give you the choice to have us run your Member Months Coverage Report at no cost. This service is available to ASC accounts for the 2017 tax year. The Member Months Coverage Report provides data for each of our members enrolled for at least one month in one of our plans. The report will include:

- Account number
- Group number
- First and last name
- Date of birth
- Months covered for each member

We won’t be soliciting Social Security numbers—we’ll rely on you to accurately update this information through FileLink or BlueLinks prior January 1, 2018. Each account is responsible for sending the report file to your tax vendor and filing the data with the IRS.

To request a Member Months Coverage Report, please notify your account executive by November 1, 2017.

Please visit bluecrossma.com/employers for more information.

Annually, insurers are required to meet federal and state medical loss ratio requirements. Insurers who don’t meet both requirements must issue rebates to all clients and members.

For the reporting year of 2016, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts won’t issue rebates, as our loss ratio exceeded state and federal requirements for all market segments.

To learn more, access the full article at bluecrossma.com/iai.