



101 Huntington Avenue
Suite 1300
Boston, MA 02199-7611

PRESORT
STANDARD MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BCBSMA
BOSTON, MA
PERMIT NO. 56717

Special Edition

IAI | IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Receive the IAI via email.
Go to www.bluecrossma.com/subscribe today.

July 2015



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

IAI | LETTER

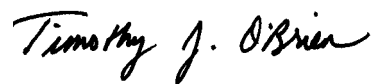
Dear Valued Customer:

Welcome to a special edition of our Important Administrative Information July 2015 newsletter. We provide the latest health care industry news that affects you. This month's topics include:

- New Substance Abuse Treatment Coverage Requirements
- Keeping You Informed about the Supreme Court Same-Sex Marriage Ruling

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

Sincerely,



Timothy J. O'Brien
Senior Vice President
Sales and Marketing

New Substance Abuse Treatment Coverage Requirements

- ✓ Small Accounts
- ✓ Mid-size Accounts
- ✓ Large Accounts
- ✓ Municipal Accounts
- ✓ MIIA Accounts

Effective October 1, 2015, we will be updating many of our health plans to include newly required substance abuse treatment coverage, per Massachusetts law (Chapter 258 of the Acts of 2014) for our commercial (insured and self-funded), Medex, and Managed Blue for Seniors health plans. This coverage includes:

- Access to abuse-deterrent opioid drugs on a basis that is not less favorable than non-abuse deterrent opioids.
- Medically necessary acute treatment services and clinical stabilization services for up to 14 days, without requiring preauthorization prior to obtaining treatment. The facility must provide the insurer with an admission notice and initial treatment plan within 48 hours. Insurers will be permitted to initiate utilization review procedures on day 7 of the treatment.
- Substance abuse treatment, without requiring preauthorization, if the provider is certified or licensed by the Department of Public Health.
- Services provided by licensed alcohol and drug counselors.

Please note that we anticipate guidance from the Division of Insurance, and we will provide additional information when it becomes available.

Keeping You Informed about the Supreme Court Same-Sex Marriage Ruling

-  Small Accounts
-  Mid-size Accounts
-  Large Accounts
-  Municipal Accounts
-  MIIA Accounts

In light of the Supreme Court's June 26, 2015, ruling to legalize same-sex marriage in all 50 states, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts wants to keep our accounts informed of the impact this ruling may have on their plans. One immediate impact is that we are **offering to accounts a 90-day special open enrollment period, from June 26, 2015, through September 25, 2015, for same-sex couples** who:

- were legally-married in one state;
- lived in another state that did not recognize the marriage; and
- were unable to enroll the subscriber's spouse in his or her health and dental plans.

This is a unique special enrollment event, and we want to be sure our accounts understand what rules and guidelines apply. For more information about this special open enrollment and other issues impacting plans, please refer to **www.bluecrossma.com/employer** and click on the What's New tab, and select Special Announcements from the dropdown.

Note that in certain instances such an off-anniversary enrollment may result in adverse tax consequences to members or accounts, and we encourage those impacted to seek their own tax counsel. The IRS has yet to release guidance on this same-sex marriage ruling.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your account executive.