

Brief Notes

News for
Brokers and Consultants

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3 Penn Plaza East, Newark, NJ 07105-2200

Newton Memorial Hospital no longer part of Horizon Hospital Network

Newton Memorial Hospital terminated its contract with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, effective midnight, July 22, 2008.

Under state law and the terms of Horizon BCBSNJ's contract, Horizon HMO and other Horizon BCBSNJ members may continue to use Newton Memorial Hospital as a participating hospital from **July 23, 2008 through November 22, 2008** (prior authorization must be obtained when required). Beginning November 23, 2008, Newton Memorial Hospital will no longer be a Horizon BCBSNJ network hospital.

As always, we are focused on ensuring that our members have access to needed care. Under the terms of our previous agreements, a four-month contract extension applies. Newton Memorial Hospital is required to continue to care for our members from July 23, 2008 through November 22, 2008, at an in-network level of benefits. We are working with our large network of hospitals and physicians to minimize the disruption caused by Newton Memorial Hospital's actions. Please see below for answers to questions you may have about these changes in our network.

Q. How do these changes affect my clients' benefits?

A. Your clients have the same basic health plan benefits. **Horizon HMO, Horizon Medicare Blue Value and Horizon Medicare Blue Solutions members**, however, receive nonemergency hospital coverage only when they use hospitals in the Horizon Hospital Network.

Horizon POS, Horizon Direct Access, Horizon PPO, Horizon Medicare Blue Access and other Horizon BCBSNJ members incur lower out-of-pocket costs and realize maximum coverage benefits by using our Horizon Hospital Network.

Q. What should my clients do in a medical emergency?

A. In case of a medical emergency, your clients should go to the nearest emergency facility, without worrying about network affiliations.

Q. What do my clients do if they are currently receiving treatment at Newton Memorial Hospital?

A. If your clients are receiving treatment at Newton Memorial Hospital, they can continue medically necessary treatment for up to four months past the contract termination date of midnight July 22, 2008.

(continued)

Therefore, your clients can continue medically necessary ongoing treatment at Newton Memorial Hospital from July 23, 2008 through November 22, 2008, as long as they obtain prior authorization when required.

Q. How can my clients find out about other hospitals in the network?

A. Your clients have a choice of network hospitals throughout New Jersey. They can search for hospitals participating in the Horizon Hospital Network by visiting our Web site, www.HorizonBlue.com, and using the *Provider Directory Search* tool. They may also refer to the attached list of hospitals in the Horizon Hospital Network.

Q. When do these changes take effect?

A. Newton Memorial Hospital terminated its contract with Horizon BCBSNJ, effective midnight, July 22, 2008. Under the terms of Horizon BCBSNJ's contract with Newton Memorial Hospital, the contract is extended for four months for **Horizon HMO, Horizon Medicare Blue Value and Horizon Medicare Blue Solutions members**, from July 23, 2008 through November 22, 2008. Therefore, members can receive treatment at Newton Memorial Hospital at an in-network level of benefits from July 23, 2008 through November 22, 2008, as long as they obtain prior authorization when required.

Under the terms of Horizon BCBSNJ's hospital contract with Newton Memorial Hospital, the contract is also extended for four months for **Horizon POS, Horizon Direct Access, Horizon PPO, Horizon Medicare Blue Access and other Horizon BCBSNJ members** from July 23, 2008 through November 22, 2008. Therefore, these members can also receive treatment at Newton Memorial Hospital at an in-network level of benefits from July 23, 2008 through November 22, 2008 as long as they obtain prior authorization when required.

We encourage all members to use network hospitals to maximize their benefits and minimize their out-of-pocket costs.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please contact your Horizon BCBSNJ account manager or sales representative if you have any questions.