

News You Can Use

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H1N1 Update

CareFirst and CareFirst BlueChoice understand the importance of protecting members from the growing threat of the H1N1 influenza virus. The following is CareFirst and CareFirst BlueChoice's policy regarding the administration of the H1N1 flu vaccine.

How to obtain the vaccine:

Providers can now pre-register online to administer the H1N1 influenza vaccine. Please visit your state or jurisdiction's health department Web site for more information. Below are links to health department Web sites for the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia:

District of Columbia:

<http://newsroom.dc.gov/show.aspx/agency/doh/section/2/release/17978>

Maryland:

<http://dhmh.maryland.gov/swineflu/h1n1registration.html>

Virginia:

<http://www.vdh.state.va.us/epidemiology/immunization/h1n1prereg.htm>

Benefits

Benefits will be provided according to the member's contract type:

Fully insured

- For contracts that contain vaccine benefits, CareFirst and CareFirst BlueChoice will cover the cost to administer the H1N1 vaccine as per the benefit contract, and waive:
 - Any contractual penalties for obtaining services from out-of-network providers,
 - Any referral and authorization requirements.
- For the small number of contracts that **do not** offer vaccine benefits, vaccine administration will be reimbursed at 100% of the allowed amount.

Self Insured

- For non-risk accounts that have requested coverage for this vaccine, CareFirst and CareFirst BlueChoice will cover the administration of the H1N1 vaccine as per the benefit contract for all other vaccines.
- For accounts that have requested that the vaccine NOT be covered, members will receive no benefit coverage, and will be responsible for the cost to administer the vaccine only. The cost of the vaccine itself will be provided by the Federal government.

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H1N1 Update Cont'd

Billing

Effective immediately, the American Medical Association (AMA) has announced the following CPT codes for claim submissions:

- 90470- H1N1 immunization administration (intramuscular, intranasal), including counseling when performed,
- 90663- Influenza virus vaccine, pandemic formulation H1N1.

The vaccine cost will be paid by the government; therefore CareFirst and CareFirst BlueChoice do not expect to receive a bill for the vaccine. If a bill is received, it will be rejected with \$0 member liability.

Please Note: Providers should not bill G codes to report H1N1 services.

Specialty Pharmacy Reminders

Medmark

Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy has acquired McKesson Pharmaceuticals.

- The new name is Medmark Specialty Pharmacy.
- If you need to place an order, or have a question, call Medmark at 888-347-3416.
- Visit Medmark's website at www.walgreenspecialtyrx.com.

iCORE

- iCORE has no changes. iCORE's telephone number to place an order is 866-554-2673. To speak with a representative call 866-522-2486
- Orders can also be faxed to 866-364-2673.
- Visit iCORE's website at <http://www.icorehealthcare.com>.

CareMark

- Federal Government members must use CareMark.
- Providers may reach Caremark at 1-800-237-2767, Monday - Friday from 6:30 am - 8:00 pm. Providers may also fax an order or script to Caremark at 1-800-323-2445.

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CareFirst Direct Fee Tool

Inquiry

Fee Schedules are available for participating **professional providers (CMS 1500 billers)** on CareFirst Direct. Providers may only access the codes and related fees applicable to their specific specialties.

Magellan contracts are viewable for those providers participating in specific Magellan networks.

A tutorial can be found on www.carefirst.com under providers and physicians. Then choose “The Center for Provider Education & Training”, and select the office staff section. The tutorial is in the self service section of the website. It includes the steps to assign who can view the fees, and the steps to access the fees.

Search options

Single code: type any 5 digit code and modifier combination to find the fee for the selected specialty.

Most commonly billed codes: shows the top codes (typically 100) for the selected specialty.

GHMSI fees are available for the PAR, RPN and HMO networks. The fees are based on the specific practitioner’s contract and primary office location. For other rates, a fax form and number are provided as a hyperlink.

Fee Schedule responses may vary slightly from actual payments due to rounding.

The export function allows you to export your fee schedule as a Microsoft Excel or CSV file.



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Care First Administrators (CFA)

CFA is a “Blue Branded” Third Party Administrator (TPA), operating under an independent license from the BlueCross BlueShield Association.

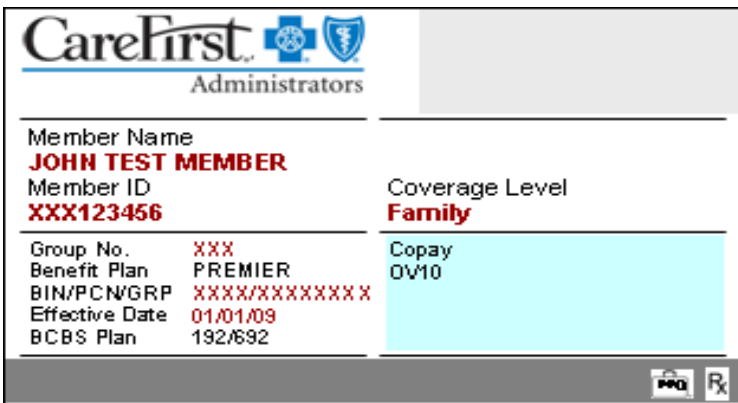
The product offered allows members to take advantage of the national network for out-of-area services.

Provider Claims and Eligibility
800-676-2583

Address for claims submission:
CareFirst Administrators
PO Box 3900
Merrifield, VA 22116-3900

Electronic claims payer code of 75191

Sample Card



For more details refer to the website, www.cfablue.com.

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AdvantageBlue PFFS

Effective January 1, 2010, AdvantageBlue PFFS will no longer be offered to our employer groups.

This is a result of legislative changes regarding provider network requirements

Two groups remain in AdvantageBlue PFFS with 62 members:

- Educators Benefit Services
- CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield House Account

How changes will be handled for these members?

- AdvantageBlue PFFS will not be renewed for these groups as of January 1, 2010.
- Medi-CareFirst will ensure that these members experience a smooth transition.
- Until January 1, 2010, members can continue to receive care from providers who accept the Medi-CareFirst Terms and Conditions.
- There will be no operational changes until January 1, 2010.
- Affected members will be eligible for other coverage offered by their groups.
- Members will be notified of the changes during their open enrollment.

Requests for Pre-Service Approvals

Pre-service reviews are only done when the procedure or the member's contract requires a pre-service/pre-authorization review.

- You can determine that the procedure requires a pre-service approval by accessing the member's benefits on CareFirst Direct, or by calling the customer service number on the back of the patient's card.
- In some cases the procedure will be reviewed when the claim is filed for reimbursement. This is done to review the procedure against CareFirst's Medical Policy or other adjudication policies.

Carefirst cannot review a procedure prior to the service being done unless the review is a requirement of the contract.

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Post Office Boxes Closing

CareFirst has been using the post office (PO) boxes in Kentucky for the past three years in an effort to make doing business with us easier. CareFirst has closed the PO boxes in the chart below effective July 30, 2009. Any mail sent to these PO boxes will be returned to the sender.

Please use the Kentucky addresses listed in the provider and physician's section of www.carefirst.com.

MD PO Boxes	PO Box Description
644	Claims & Correspondence DC
807	Claims/Referrals MD Point of Service
811	MD Claims & Correspondence
812	Claims IMD
815	Claims Central Service
822	Claims Magellan

State of Maryland Claims- Address Reminders

Effective July 1, 2009

Providers should submit all claims to:

Mail Administrator
P.O. Box 14115
Lexington, Ky., 40512-4115

Correspondence should be sent to:

P.O. Box 14114
Lexington, Ky., 40512-4114

Provider Services Telephone Support:

1-877-228-7268