

Blue Edge Newsletter



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF WYOMING FOR LARGE EMPLOYERS

"And all at once, summer collapsed into fall." - Oscar Wilde



Enjoy the final quarterly update from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming for 2022.
We have important information to share with you and your employees.

Blue Circle of Excellence Marks First Designation

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming recently announced an innovative new program that promotes effective, high quality medical care with the Wyoming Blue Circle of Excellence Program.

Wyoming Blue Circle of Excellence is a designation awarded by BCBSWY to health care facilities showing expertise in delivering high-quality patient safety and better health outcomes.

The Circle signifies the continuum of care from the pre-surgical evaluations to post-op recovery and rehab and our commitment to members to receive the highest quality of care at all stages.

Powder River Surgery Center in Gillette has been designated as the first BCBSWY Wyoming Blue Circle of Excellence Center for the Knee and Hip Replacement program.

Facilities designated as Wyoming Blue Circle of Excellence for Knees and Hips demonstrate expertise in total knee and total hip replacement surgeries with fewer patient complications and readmissions.

Through this program, Powder River Surgery Center will be the most affordable provider for Blue Cross Blue Shield members to get a knee and hip replacement in the state.

Learn more about the program: [Wyoming Blue Circle of Excellence](#)

[Read our Announcement](#)

Pharmacy Benefit Manager Legislative Update



The pharmacists and PBMs have come to consensus on approximately eight pages of changes to existing statutes regarding transparency, with concessions made by both sides. Discussions regarding reimbursement and network adequacy/patient freedom of choice have been broached, but no agreement has been achieved to date.

Another meeting is scheduled for Nov. 8 to resume dialogue. The pharmacists are pleased with progress made to date, but they remain interested in achieving increased reimbursement and other prohibitions, which could increase health costs.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming and Prime Therapeutics continue to advocate for statute changes, which help pharmacists (as evidenced by the existing draft) without increasing health care costs to our members.

We appreciate your continued interest and support and will keep you updated if a bill is successfully advanced into the next legislative session.

Flu Shots Keep Your Workplace Healthy

Flu shots are a covered preventive benefit and a great way to keep the workplace healthy. The CDC recommends people get vaccinated in October for optimal coverage. Many are available at pharmacies; local public health nursing offices and most providers offer flu shot clinics in their offices.

[Learn More About Preventive Care](#)

Tackle Hunger Food Drive Wins against Food Insecurity

BCBSWY helped collect over 20,000 pounds of food with Wyoming Hunger Initiative during Tackle Hunger at the UW football game home opener on Sept. 3. Since 2020, BCBSWY, alongside its Caring Foundation, has donated more than \$300,000 to



Wyoming Hunger Initiative to help combat food insecurity in Wyoming.

[Learn More](#)

REMINDERS TO SAVE MONEY

Cotiviti Saves Money

Cotiviti is helping groups save money on claims. Their team of 200+ registered nurses, 10 medical directors and certified reviewer will help amplify claim accuracy.

Speak with your account executive to learn more.

Drug Infusion Treatment

BCBSWY reminds groups that certain drugs should not be performed in an inpatient or outpatient hospital setting when the infusion can occur at a free-standing infusion center, doctor's office, pharmacy, or via home health.



National Diabetes Month

November is National Diabetes Month. BCBSWY encourages you to remind employees that glucose monitoring is vital for controlling metabolism, managing weight, understanding your ideal diet, and enhancing athletic performance.

[More on Glucose Testing](#)

Subscriber Settlement in Appeals, Opt-Out Cases, & Provider Litigation Ongoing

On Aug. 9, 2022, the Court issued its Final Approval Order and Judgment, wherein the Court approved the Subscriber Settlement. However, timely appeals were filed by the Sept. 8, 2022 deadline. Therefore, the Settlement Agreement is not effective and will not be effective until the appeals conclude.

Implementation of all injunctive relief available under the settlement is paused until the appeal process concludes. The duration of the appeals process is difficult to predict and may last up to a year or more. We will continue to update you as we wait for the appeals process to conclude and the Settlement to become effective.

Opt-out litigation is also taking place for those Subscribers and ASO groups who did not join the Subscriber Settlement.

The Provider litigation is ongoing. However, potential settlement discussions are occurring with Providers.

If you have questions, please contact your account executive for more information.

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