



## Introducing BlueCard PPO

### *The New Nationwide Hospital/Medical Network*

The Board of Trustees is very pleased to announce the achievement of a long-time goal: a single, nationwide hospital and major medical network for all participants no matter where you live or travel. The new nationwide network is called BlueCard PPO, and it includes all of the local Blue Cross Plans around the country. BlueCard PPO is effective April 1, 2007.

**Here's why we are excited about the new nationwide network. BlueCard PPO will:**

- **Offer a larger selection of providers**
- **Offer the convenience of one nationwide network**
- **Streamline claims processing**
- **Save you and the Health Plan money**
- **Maintain your current benefits and coverage**

Over the next several months, the Plan Office will send more information to you about the new BlueCard PPO including a new Health Plan Identification Card. Be sure to check your mail. On the following pages, in a Q&A format, we address some important and timely transition issues. If you have additional questions, please contact the Plan Office.

### BlueCard PPO

#### Inside California

If you reside in California, you are already familiar with the Blue Cross Prudent Buyer network. The transition to the BlueCard PPO network will be seamless because there is no change in your Blue Cross network. However, you will receive a new ID Card for use starting April 1, 2007. You also continue to have access to The Industry Health Network (TIHN).

#### Outside California

If you reside outside of California and currently utilize PHCS (Private HealthCare Systems), be assured that the majority of PHCS providers are *already* in the larger BlueCard PPO network. We anticipate a smooth transition, and to mitigate disruption in care, Blue Cross has committed to expanding its network.

# Q&A on BlueCard PPO Transition Issues

**Question:** How do I find out if my current doctor is in the new BlueCard PPO Network?

**Answer:** You can ask your doctor directly or you can call (800) 810-BLUE (2583). Be sure to tell the customer service representative that your three digit prefix is NSA. You can also visit the Plans' Web site: [www.sagph.org](http://www.sagph.org), and link to the BlueCard Doctor and Hospital Finder.

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**Question:** What if my current PHCS provider is not in the BlueCard PPO Network?

**Answer:** If your PHCS provider is interested in joining the BlueCard PPO network, he or she should contact their local Blue Cross office or call (800) 810-BLUE (2583).

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**Question:** How do I get a list of BlueCard PPO providers in my area?

**Answer:** You can call (800) 810-BLUE (2583). Be sure to tell the customer service representative that your three digit prefix is NSA. The customer service representative can provide you with the names, addresses and other information for any type of doctor you may need. You can also go to the Plans' Web site: [www.sagph.org](http://www.sagph.org), and link to the BlueCard Doctor and Hospital Finder where you can create a personalized provider directory.

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**Question:** What should I do if I am currently receiving treatment from a PHCS provider who is not in the BlueCard PPO network?

**Answer:** Inpatient confinements and certain courses of treatment, such as chemotherapy, may continue with your current provider until the confinement or course of treatment ends. To find out if your particular treatment with a PHCS provider will be covered after April 1, 2007 or if you have any questions regarding this issue, contact the Plan Office.

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**Question:** What if I need to see a doctor or receive treatment prior to April 1, 2007?

**Answer:** Outside-of-California participants should continue to use PHCS (Private HealthCare Systems) providers for services through March 31, 2007. There is no change for participants in California.

# Q&A

**Question:** Will my dental, mental health, and prescription drug coverage remain the same?

**Answer:** Yes. Delta Dental remains the nationwide provider for dental benefits, ValueOptions remains the nationwide provider for mental health and chemical dependency benefits, Medco Health Solutions remains the nationwide provider for prescription drug benefits, and VSP remains the nationwide provider for vision.

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**Question:** Will The Industry Health Network still be available to California participants?

**Answer:** Yes.

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**Question:** Will there be any changes to my benefits or coverage?

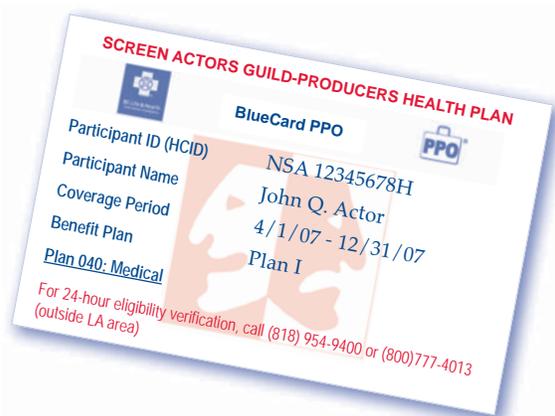
**Answer:** No.

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**Question:** What will my new ID Card look like?

**Answer:** Here's a picture of a sample BlueCard PPO ID Card. In addition to your name, coverage period and benefit plan, this card contains a Participant identification number, called the HCID (Health Care ID). The HCID number has a three-digit prefix, **NSA**, followed by 8 numbers and the letter H.

Each Participant's HCID will have the **NSA** prefix, followed by a unique 8-digit number. The HCID assigned to the Participant applies to his or her qualified dependents. You can use this number instead of your SSN, to identify yourself when calling the Plan Office and it can be used when claims are filed.



The HCID applies only to the BlueCard PPO. It does not apply to other benefits such as dental, prescription drug or mental health and chemical dependency.



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**This Special Edition  
of Take 2 contains  
important information  
on BlueCard PPO,  
the new nationwide  
hospital and major  
medical network. See  
inside for details.**

**PENSION AND HEALTH PLAN DIRECTORY**

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Web site: [www.sagph.org](http://www.sagph.org)

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