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IAI | IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION



Prefer to receive the IAI via email?

Contact your account service consultant and update your email and communication preference. We'll send the next edition to your email address.

December 2023



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

Dear Valued Customer:

Welcome to our *Important Administrative Information* December 2023 newsletter, with the latest health care industry news that affects you. This edition's articles are:

- Announcing Upcoming Webinars
- Your Shot to Stop the Flu and Covid-19
- A New Way for Members to Access Blue 20/20 Vision Benefits
- AllianceRx Walgreens Pharmacy Will Join Our Specialty Pharmacy Network
- Some Previously Announced Medical Policy Changes for the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Formulary Are Being Delayed
- Effective April 1, 2024, Upcoming Medical Policy Change for the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Formulary
- Effective April 1, 2024, Upcoming Changes to the Standard Control with Advanced Control Specialty Formulary

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

Sincerely,



Debra J. Williams
Senior Vice President and Chief Sales & Marketing Officer

New Look for 2024!

We're excited to announce that we're refreshing the *IAI* quarterly newsletter. With our new look and feel, you'll find it easier to learn about the important updates to your plan. Look for these changes starting with your next issue in March 2024.

[IAI December 2023]

Announcing Upcoming Webinars

- ✓ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✓ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA

We're excited to announce upcoming webinars in our account webinar series. These webinars allow your organization's leadership and human resources teams to learn more about your health plan benefits from our subject matter experts, so you can make the best possible decisions on behalf of your employees. Upcoming topics include:

- Blue Benefit Administrators
- Women's Health: How We're Supporting Your Reproductive Journey

Presentations last approximately one hour. You can submit your own questions either when you register or during the webinar. You'll receive additional details in our monthly webinar emails.



Register for an upcoming webinar at employer.bluecrossma.com/whats-new/account-webinars.

If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

Your Shot to Stop the Flu and Covid-19

- ✔ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✔ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✔ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✔ Municipal
- ✔ MIIA

Now's the time for your employees to get their updated flu and COVID-19 shots. They'll help protect your employees and everyone around them from getting seriously ill this season. Your employees can save time by getting both shots together,¹ at a convenient location near them. The shots are safe and effective,^{2,3} and available at no cost from in-network providers.⁴ Help stop the spread of flu and COVID-19 by encouraging your employees to get vaccinated today!

Where your employees can learn more

Your employees can learn more about flu and COVID-19 vaccines by visiting bluecrossma.org. Once there, they can choose **Flu Resources** or **Coronavirus Resource Center** under **Your Health**.

Find flu resources on the Employer Portal

Encourage vaccination by sharing educational resources from the Employer Portal. They include fact sheets, brochures, *Coverage* articles, and FAQs. Get started by going to **Flu Information and Resources** under **Member Tools and Resources**.

❖ If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "Getting a Flu Vaccine and a COVID-19 Vaccine at the Same Time," October 25, 2022; cdc.gov/flu/prevent/coadministration.htm.
2. CDC, "Influenza (Flu) Vaccine Safety," August 25, 2022; cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaccinesafety.htm.
3. CDC, "Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines," September 12, 2023; cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/safety-of-vaccines.html.
4. CDC-recommended vaccines are covered in full when administered by an in-network provider. Exceptions may apply. Members should check their plan materials for details.

A New Way for Members to Access Blue 20/20 Vision Benefits

- ✔ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✔ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✔ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✔ Municipal
- ✔ MIIA

Effective November 13, 2023, Blue 20/20 members who have a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts medical plan, dental plan, or both can access their vision benefits through MyBlue. We're excited to announce this enhancement that improves our members' experience, by allowing them to access all their Blue Cross plans with a single sign-in.

Members can use their existing MyBlue account to access their benefits. If they don't already have an account, they can sign up by downloading the MyBlue app or creating an account at bluecrossma.org.

Blue 20/20 vision-only members must continue to use blue2020ma.com to access their vision benefits online.

❖ If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

AllianceRx Walgreens Pharmacy Will Join Our Specialty Pharmacy Network

- ✔ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✔ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✔ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✔ Municipal
- ✔ MIIA

On January 1, 2024, AllianceRx Walgreens Pharmacy will join our specialty pharmacy network. Specialty pharmacies provide medications that are used to treat certain complex health conditions. For more information about specialty medications, use our **Medication Lookup** tool at bluecrossma.org/medication.

This change applies to plans with the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Formulary, and the Standard Control with Advanced Control Specialty Formulary.

❖ If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

Some Previously Announced Medical Policy Changes for the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Formulary Are Being Delayed

- ✓ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA



Some of the medical policy changes announced in a recent *IAI* newsletter are being delayed from January 1, 2024, to March 1, 2024. Complete details about which changes will be delayed are available at bluecrossma.com/employer in the **What's New** section.

If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

Effective April 1, 2024, Upcoming Medical Policy Change for the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Formulary

- ✓ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✓ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA



Effective April 1, 2024, we're updating a medical policy for our formulary (list of covered medications) for medical plans with pharmacy benefits, as well as Medex^{®1} plans with a three-tier pharmacy benefit.

Complete details about these changes will be available by January 4, 2024 at bluecrossma.com/employer in the **What's New** section.

If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

1. This doesn't include Medex[®] 2 plans with Blue MedicareRx (PDP) prescription drug coverage.

Effective April 1, 2024, Upcoming Changes to the Standard Control with Advanced Control Specialty Formulary

- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA



Effective April 1, 2024, CVS Caremark^{®r}, an independent company that administers your pharmacy benefits on behalf of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, is updating their formulary (list of covered medications) for select self-insured plans (500+) with the Standard Control with Advanced Control Specialty Formulary. As part of this update, certain medications may:

- No longer be covered (exceptions may be granted)
- Switch tiers
- Have new quantity or dosing limits
- Require prior authorization and/or step therapy
- Be added to the list of covered medications
- Be designated as preferred

Complete details about these changes will be available by February 21, 2024, at bluecrossma.com/employer in the **What's New** section.