

**Blue Cross
Blue Shield**
of Michigan



600 Lafayette East
Detroit, Michigan 48226-2998

Dear State of Michigan Medicare Advantage Member:

It has been brought to our attention that some providers may have misconceptions about the terms and conditions of the State of Michigan retirees' Medicare Advantage plan, Medicare Plus Blue Group. We found that once these misunderstandings are clarified, most providers agree to provide service to Medicare Plus Blue Group members.

To help dispel the misconceptions, we are providing you with a brochure, "The Myths of BCBSM's Medicare Advantage Plan," to give to your providers if they have concerns about your Medicare Plus Blue Group coverage. This brochure will be helpful to providers by giving them the facts of your Medicare Advantage plan.

If your providers read the "Myths of BCBSM's Medicare Advantage Plan" brochure, and still have questions about the State of Michigan's Medicare Plus Blue Group plan, please have them call BCBSM's Provider Information line, toll-free at 866-309-1719, or visit bcbsm.com/ma.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Arva Overton".

Arva Overton
BCBSM Account Manager
State of Michigan Account

MYTH Shingles vaccine and the administration are a covered benefit under BCBSM's Medicare Advantage medical/surgical plan.

FACT According to Medicare's regulations, the shingles vaccine and the administration are no longer covered under the medical/surgical plan. Effective Jan. 1, 2008, reimbursement is now covered under the member's pharmacy plan.

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OF MICHIGAN

MYTH BCBSM's Medicare Advantage reimbursement rate is less than that of original Medicare.

FACT Because we value the health care services you can provide for our BCBSM Medicare Advantage members, we use the same reimbursement methodologies as original Medicare to pay health care providers.
BCBSM reimburses claims for BCBSM Medicare Advantage members using Medicare fee schedules, prospective payment systems and interim Medicare payment amounts. See "terms and conditions" for more information at bcbsm.com/ma.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services reviews payment methodologies for accuracy.



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600 E. Lafayette Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48226



THE MYTHS

of BCBSM's Medicare Advantage Plan

MYTH Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan's Medicare Plus Blue Group is an HMO.

FACT **BCBSM's Medicare Plus Blue Group is a private-fee-for-service plan.** This means a member of a PFFS is free to use any provider willing to treat him or her and accept our plan's terms and conditions of payment. The member must inform you, before obtaining services from you, that they have Medicare Plus Blue Group for their Medicare coverage. This gives you the right to choose to accept Medicare Plus Blue Group members. You have a right to make that choice each time service is needed by a Medicare Plus Blue Group member. You don't have to sign a contract to see a Medicare Plus Blue Group member.

MYTH It takes too long to receive reimbursements for rendered services.

FACT All private fee-for-service plans are required by law to **process 95 percent of all error-free claims within 30 days of receipt by the plan.**

MYTH BCBSM's Medicare Plus Blue Group doesn't coordinate care.

FACT BCBSM Medicare Advantage members have access to three excellent medical care management programs that promote quality health care services based on the member's health status.

The following care management programs are designed to assist BCBSM Medicare Advantage members:

- **Health care management** – Provides online health information including articles, online tools and quizzes that provides a wide variety of health information on thousands of topics
- **Disease management** – For members with a chronic illness; provides coaching, surgical decision support, urgent care needs and general health and wellness assistance
- **Case management** – Professionals work with members to ensure they understand their condition, prognosis and treatment options, and coordinate provider services that the member requires.

MYTHS 
FACTS

Call us to clear the air.

State of Michigan's
Medicare Advantage Plan

Call: **866-309-1719**

Visit: **bcbsm.com/ma**

