

Brief Notes

*News for
Brokers and Consultants*

March 18, 2014 Vol. 25 No. 975

Three Penn Plaza East, Newark, NJ 07105-2200

Applies to: All markets

Horizon BCBSNJ and Hackensack-Physician Hospital Alliance kick-off collaborative ACO

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey and Hackensack-Physician Hospital Alliance (HackensackAlliance) ACO have announced the launch of a collaborative Accountable Care Organization (ACO) agreement to improve care and patient outcomes for more than 16,000 Horizon BCBSNJ members. More than 450 primary care doctors practicing at approximately 40 practice locations in Bergen County are participating in this ACO.

"This ACO reflects Horizon BCBSNJ's continuing commitment to collaborate with providers to deliver better quality care at lower costs. We are pleased to join with the HackensackAlliance ACO in extending this innovative model of care to more than 16,000 Horizon BCBSNJ members," said Jim Albano, Vice President of Network Management and Horizon Healthcare Innovations at Horizon BCBSNJ.

"As the nation focuses its attention on providing efficient, accountable care, HackensackUMC is proud to collaborate with New Jersey's largest health insurer," added Morey Menacker, D.O., president of HackensackAlliance ACO. "Working together, we can improve the quality of care delivered to thousands of patients by coordinating care and controlling costs. We look forward to a successful collaboration with Horizon BCBSNJ."

ACOs are built on a strong primary care foundation. Participating physician groups help create a healthier patient population through a coordinated, accountable approach to care among providers within the ACO. ACOs are designed to achieve measured patient quality outcomes and decrease unnecessary and duplicative medical tests and treatments.

Under this ACO agreement, Horizon BCBSNJ will provide care coordination payments to the ACO to take on additional accountability for improving the health and patient experience as well as controlling the cost of care for its Horizon BCBSNJ patients. The ACO and its affiliated practices, provided the ACO meets certain health improvement, patient satisfaction and cost goals, have an opportunity to share in the resulting financial savings with Horizon BCBSNJ.

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Horizon BCBSNJ has a number of Patient-Centered Programs, including ACOs, Patient-Centered Medical Homes and programs focused on different Episodes of Care (e.g., joint replacement, pregnancy). More than 500,000 Horizon BCBSNJ members are now benefiting from Horizon BCBSNJ's Patient-Centered Programs that are working to improve patient care while controlling costs.

If you have questions, please contact your Horizon BCBSNJ sales executive or account manager.