

A look at the week's most recent employee benefits & announcements

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Upcoming Events

Week of November 14th

### Horizon BCBS ACA Reporting and SSN Solicitation

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey to provide information about its members' health insurance coverage to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) using the member's Social Security Number (SSN) and the SSNs of any individuals covered under their policy.

For fully insured members, Horizon BCBSNJ will collect and submit this information to the IRS as proof that they had minimum essential health insurance coverage in 2016. For 2016 coverage information, Horizon BCBSNJ is required to send the 1095-B Form to the member by January 31, 2017 and electronically to the IRS by March 31, 2017.

On or about November 15, 2016, approximately 20,000 fully insured members will receive a letter from Horizon BCBSNJ with instructions on how to update their information. Impacted members can sign in to their secure Member Online Services at [HorizonBlue.com/1095](http://HorizonBlue.com/1095) to update their information. Members will be redirected to a third-party website once signed in. Or, members can complete and return the paper form that is enclosed with the letter.

Members who do not have missing information in Horizon's files will not receive a letter requesting his/her SSN.

Please click [here](#) to view their formal Broker Brief

For more information please reach out to [brokersupport@martinins.com](mailto:brokersupport@martinins.com)

## CARRIER UPDATES

### 2017 Medicare Parts A & B Premiums and Deductibles Announced

On October 18, 2016, the Social Security Administration announced that the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for Social Security benefits will be 0.3 percent for 2017. Because of the low Social Security COLA, a statutory "hold harmless" provision designed to protect seniors, will largely prevent Part B premiums from increasing for about 70 percent of beneficiaries. Among this group, the average 2017 premium will be about \$109.00, compared to \$104.90 for the past four years

[Read More](#)

### New OMNIA Health Plan Marketing Materials for Small and Midsize Groups

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey is pleased to provide new OMNIA Health Plan marketing materials designed to help our broker partners educate clients about OMNIA Health Plans. The new marketing materials encompass the complete suite of Horizon BCBSNJ insurance solutions available, including medical coverage featuring our OMNIA Health Plans, as well as wellness offerings and specialty products and services such as dental and vision coverage. The ready-to-use digital brochures, flyers, emails and direct mail samples can be used "as is" or

## CJAHU December Meeting: Why Transparency in the Market

presented by Chris Vanderwolk of Gente and Steve Honig of O.C.A. Benefit Solutions

CE Credits will be available!

Cost is \$20 for members and \$60 for non-members. Breakfast is included.

**REGISTER  
HERE NOW!**

For more information, contact Jessica Martin

## Horizon BCBS Webex: Specialty Products and Services

customized to include your firm's contact information or, in the case of member-directed materials, relevant open enrollment dates.

[Read More](#)

### **Oxford Members Have More Opportunities to Exercise for Rewards**

Beginning this month, the gym reimbursement program, a hallmark of the medical benefit plans available to many Oxford members in New York and New Jersey, is being expanded. The new program, Sweat Equity, covers more types of exercises and allows members to combine their traditional gym workouts with group classes, making it easier for them to participate more exercise options means more ways to meet the rule of 50 "workouts." The new program will also be extended to Oxford members in Connecticut.

[Read More](#)

### **Prospect Manchester Memorial Hospital and Prospect Rockville Hospital's Network Participation**

We are committed to providing your clients and their plan participants with access to comprehensive and affordable health care services. As part of this strategy, we are currently negotiating a new agreement with Prospect Manchester Memorial Hospital, located in Manchester, CT, and Prospect Rockville Hospital, located in Vernon, CT.

[Read More](#)

### **Small Group ACA new business quotes transition to Producer World**

Producer World is your online source for Small Group ACA new business quotes and rate sheets. Just go to the site and click on "small Group," "Quoting and enrollment" and select "Get a Small Group quote" or "Rate sheets" Please begin to use this tool for all request with 01/01/2017 effective dates. We're starting to transition now to self-service, Small Group quoting. If you email a Small Group proposal request in late December, we'll return it and ask you to use the self-quoting tool in its place. You can still call phone support with any questions.

[Read More](#)

### **MARTIN UP-TO-THE-MINUTE**

We have summarized the top announcements from the carriers and Martin to keep you up-to-the minute with the news and happenings in the industry! Check out what's happening below.

[2017 Open Enrollment Toolkit](#)

[Oxford January Renewals Posted to Your Dashboard](#)

[Horizon Broker Education Series: ID Card Improvement Project](#)

### **IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND REMINDERS**

#### **New Business and Conversion Deadlines**

Stay up-to-date and prepared with all the upcoming conversion and new business deadlines with the major SEH carriers in NJ.

[Click Here.](#)

#### **2017 MARKETPLACE REGISTRATION LINKS**

[Horizon BCBS 2017 Sentinel Elite](#)

[AmeriHealth 2017 Registration Link](#)

For more information, please contact Greg Nocera at [gnocera@martinins.com](mailto:gnocera@martinins.com).

These training sessions will focus on the Horizon BCBSNJ Specialty Products and Services - Dental, Vision, and Wellness. The sessions will provide an overview of the specialty products and services available in the Individual and Small Group markets.

Date: November 21, 2016

Time: 11:00AM - 12:00PM EST

Specialty Products and Services Dental-Vision-Wellness

Presented by: Sales Training

[Registration Link: Specialty Products and Services, November 21, 2016 11am](#)

Date: November 21, 2016

Time: 1:00PM - 2:00PM EST

Specialty Products and Services Dental-Vision-Wellness

Presented by: Sales Training

[Registration Link: Specialty Products and Services, November 21, 2016 1pm](#)

Date: November 22, 2016

Time: 11:00AM - 12:00PM EST

Specialty Products and Services Dental-Vision-Wellness

Presented by: Sales Training

[Registration Link: Specialty Products and Services, November 22, 2016 1pm](#)

For more information,  
please contact  
brokersupport@martinins.com

# Horizon BCBS Webex: ID Card Improvement Project

These training sessions will focus on the ID Card Improvement Project, providing an overview of the improvements made at the ID card process.

Date: November 28,  
2016

Time: 11:00AM -  
12:00PM EST

ID Card Improvement  
Project

Presented by: Sales  
Training

[Registration Link:  
Specialty Products and  
Services, November 21,  
2016 11am](#)

Date: November 28,  
2016

Time: 1:00PM - 2:00PM  
EST

ID Card Improvement  
Project

Presented by: Sales  
Training

[Registration Link:  
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## Any Questions or Feedback?

Please contact Jessica Martin at  
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