



IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Week of October 15th

Dear Valued Broker,

Within this Instant Recall, you will find a summary of this week's most recent employee benefits changes, carrier announcements, and industry news. We hope you enjoy!

HEADLINE

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the 2019 premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance amounts for the Medicare Part A and Part B programs

Medicare Part B Premiums & Deductibles

- The standard monthly premium for Medicare Part B enrollees will be \$135.50 for 2019. This will be a slight increase from \$134 in 2018. An estimated 2 million Medicare beneficiaries (about 3.5 percent) will pay less than the full Part B standard monthly premium amount in 2019 due to the statutory hold harmless provision, which limits certain beneficiaries' increase in their Part B premium to be no greater than the increase in their Social Security benefits.
- CMS also announced that the annual deductible for Medicare Part B beneficiaries is \$185 in 2019, an increase from \$183 in 2018.
- Please [click here](#) to view Part B costs

Medicare Part A Premiums & Deductibles

UPCOMING EVENTS

AmeriHealth | Northern Broker Seminar

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

[Register Here](#)

CIGNA | The Opioid Epidemic and Employers (A Four-Part Series)

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

2:00 PM to 2:45 PM

[Register Here](#)

Horizon | 2019 IHC Product/Portal Updates

- The Medicare Part A inpatient deductible that beneficiaries will pay when admitted to the hospital is \$1,364 in 2019. This is also a slight increase of \$24 from \$1,340 in 2018.
- Please [click here](#) for the full CMS release

For more information, please contact [mpang@martinins.com](mailto:mpang@martinins.com)

## TWEET OF THE WEEK



**Administrator Seema Verma**   
@SeemaCMS

Follow

We made changes to the [#Medicare](#) Prescription Drug program to allow for greater use of lower-cost generic drugs & biosimilars, to lower costs for our beneficiaries & promote innovation in these markets. [#AHIPMMD](#)

7:14 AM - 16 Oct 2018

[Tweet of the Week](#)

## CARRIER UPDATES

### AmeriHealth: October 2018 Broker Brief!

AmeriHealth is excited to announce two HSA plans into the small group market that will complement their already competitive HSA plan portfolio. AmeriHealth has two different types of tiered health plans. Tier 1 Advantage is now AmeriHealth Hospital Advantage.

[Read More](#)

### CIGNA: The Opioid Epidemic and Employers (A Four-Part Series)

The opioid epidemic has taken center stage in the U.S. health care conversation, impacting communities and industries across America. Prescription opioid pain medications have increasingly impacted employee health

**Wednesday,  
October 17, 2018**

**10:30 AM - 12:00  
PM**

[Register Here](#)

**Horizon | 2019 IHC  
Product/Portal  
Updates**

**Wednesday,  
October 17, 2018**

**1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

[Register Here](#)

**Horizon | 2019 IHC  
Product/Portal  
Updates**

**Thursday, October  
18, 2018**

**1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

[Register Here](#)

and productivity. As group health plan sponsors, employers have a vested interest and unique opportunity to help combat the epidemic. This session will feature state and federal updates from Cigna experts along with perspectives from a congressional insider.

[Read More](#)

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### **Mutual of Omaha: It's Showtime! Want to know what you can earn?**

Sure, your audience will cheer when you help them find a Medicare supplement plan that's right for them. With Mutual of Omaha, you also have the opportunity to earn some pretty cool perks. For example, **Broker Bonus**- For a limited time during Fall Surge, you'll receive a cash bonus when you sell their Medicare supplement SELECT products in most states.

[Read More](#)

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### **Delta Dental: Announcing their New Broker Bonus**

Delta Dental is excited to launch their new Broker Bonus program to help you finish strong in 2018 and start 2019 off right. Any new fully insured, NJ or CT 10-1,000 PPO or PPO Plus Premier-type of plans with effective dates from November 2018 through February 2019 are eligible for this program.

[Read More](#)

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### **Horizon Brief Notes: Introducing Horizon EXPAND**

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey's portfolio of supplemental insurance solutions is now offered under the name **Horizon EXPAND**. The supplemental products and services that you and your clients count on to complete employee benefit packages are not changing. However, Horizon BCBSNJ will offer pet insurance, a new supplemental insurance product, beginning January 1, 2019.

[Read More](#)

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## HealthCare.gov: Marketplace Weekly Digest October 8-12

The [Plan Year 2019 Open Enrollment webpage for agents and brokers](#) is live! It contains key Open Enrollment resources and information. Join HealthCare.gov on Thursday, October 18 from 2 - 3 PM Eastern Time (ET) for a webinar that details how to enhance your consumer outreach. Sign up via [REGTAP](#) or [create a REGTAP account](#)

[Read More](#)

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### **Horizon Brief Notes: MyWay Consumer Directed Healthcare Spending and Savings Enhancements!**

This month, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey will be notifying members with Horizon MyWay Consumer Directed Healthcare (CDH) spending and savings accounts of the account enhancements effective January 1, 2019. These CDH offerings include Health Savings Accounts (HSAs), Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) and Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRAs).

[Read More](#)

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### **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.

[Horizon BCBS December 2018 Renewals Posted to your Dashboard](#)

[Horizon BCBS New Horizon Blue App](#)

[AmeriHealth NJ December 2018 Renewals Posted to your Dashboard](#)

[Horizon Broker Education Series: 2019 IHC Product/Portal Updates](#)

[CIGNA Loyal American Life Medicare Supp Applications No Longer Accepted](#)

[Delta Dental Announces Their New Broker Bonus](#)

## IMPORTANT DEADLINE AND REMINDERS

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

[Click here](#) for 2018 Horizon BCBSNJ deadlines

[Click here](#) for 2018 Oscar deadlines

[Click here](#) for 2018 UHC/Oxford deadlines

Please visit our [Events](#) page for a complete list of all new and retention business deadlines.

## INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION LINKS

[2019 Gorman Sentinel Elite Horizon](#)

[2018 Oscar Producer Onboarding](#)

For more information, please contact Tyler Crine at [contracting@martinins.com](mailto:contracting@martinins.com)

Any Questions or Feedback?  
Please contact Jessica Martin at [jessmartin@martinins.com](mailto:jessmartin@martinins.com)

