

eBulletin

Important Network Information

September 28, 2014

Important Update Regarding Network Participation for Catholic Health East of New Jersey

We recently notified you about a potential change in network status for **Catholic Health East of New Jersey (Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center** in Camden, New Jersey; **Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington** in Willingboro, New Jersey; **St. Francis Medical Center** in Trenton, New Jersey; and **Saint Michael's Medical Center** in Newark, New Jersey). We are writing to you today to provide you with an update.

As stated in the previous notification, Catholic Health East of New Jersey's participation in our network was scheduled to end September 15, 2014 according to the terms of our contract. While both parties continue to negotiate, we have not yet reached a new agreement.

We are, however, extending Catholic Health East of New Jersey's participation in our network to November 15, 2014 and your clients, their covered employees and other covered members may continue to use the hospital on an in-network basis until this date. As previously communicated, if our current agreement with Catholic Health East of New Jersey terminates, it will affect both UnitedHealthcare and Oxford commercial products.

We are mailing letters to affected non-HMO fully insured members who received our previous letter to notify them of the extended agreement and the new potential termination date. Samples of these letters are included below.

- [Sample UnitedHealthcare member letter](#)
- [Sample Oxford member letter](#)

When speaking to your clients, please keep in mind the following points:

- We will have Transitional Care guidelines in place so members who have scheduled or ongoing medical treatments at a Catholic Health East of New Jersey facility will continue to get care as appropriate.
- After November 14, 2014, to receive in-network non-emergent services, a primary care physician or specialist should not refer non-HMO members to a Catholic Health East of New Jersey facility for any treatment or test. Instead, members should be referred to one of the major neighboring hospitals in our network, as listed below. This includes neighboring hospitals in Essex County, which were not included in the last communication.

Neighboring hospitals in Burlington, Camden, Essex and Mercer Counties	
Barnabas Health- Clara Maass Medical Center	East Orange General Hospital
Barnabas Health- Newark Beth Israel Medical Center	Hackensack UMC Mountainside
Barnabas Health- Saint Barnabas Medical Center	Kennedy Health System- Cherry Hill and Stratford
Capital Health Medical Center-Hopewell	Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton
Capital Health Regional Medical Center	University Hospital
Cooper University Health Care	Virtua- Virtua Berlin, Virtua Marlton, Virtua

- Consistent with the four-month cooling off period mandated by the State of New Jersey, New Jersey fully insured commercial HMO members will be able to access Catholic Health East of New Jersey facilities on an in-network basis through March 14, 2015.

The focus of our negotiations is on offering reasonable rates that will not put an unnecessary cost burden on employers and consumers during these difficult economic times. We are also mindful of Catholic Health East of New Jersey's need to be competitive with other health systems in the state.

We will continue to work toward a positive outcome of affordable health care for our employers and their plan participants and will keep you informed on the status of negotiations. If you would like more information or have questions, please contact your sales representative.