

HEALTH BENEFITS E-NEWS

*Department of Human Resource Management
Office of Health Benefits*

August 20, 2012

Affordable Care Act – Women’s Preventive Care

As part of the Affordable Care Act, a list of eight preventive care services for women, including certain contraceptives and counseling, are required to be covered at no cost to members for new plan years that begin on or after Aug. 1, 2012. The requirement will take effect for state health plans on July 1, 2013. The state program already covers many of these women’s preventive care services. Additional information may be found on the DHRM web site home page at www.dhrm.virginia.gov. For details on preventive services covered by the state plans, see the appropriate plan Member Handbook at <http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/hbenefits/employeestoc.html>.

Medco Becomes Express Scripts on September 1

Express Scripts, Inc. and Medco completed their merger on Apr. 2, 2012. On Sept. 1, 2012, the combined company will be known as Express Scripts. The company will continue as the third party prescription drug administrator for the COVA Care health plan. COVA Care members will:

- Receive their medications without changes to the pharmacy benefit or retail pharmacy network. No action is needed.
- Call the same number currently listed on their plan ID card or home delivery bottle for refills or pharmacy-related questions.
- Continue to use the Accredo specialty pharmacy if applicable to them.
- Continue to use the Medco website at www.medco.com and the mobile app if they have that option.

If you have questions, please contact the Office of Health Benefits at ohb@dhrm.virginia.gov or call toll free 1-888-642-4414 or (804) 225-3642 in Richmond.

Walgreens to Re-Enter COVA HDHP Pharmacy Network

Express Scripts and Walgreens have reached an agreement for Walgreens to participate in the COVA HDHP retail pharmacy network. As a result, COVAHDHP members will be able to use their pharmacy benefit at Walgreens stores beginning Sept. 15, 2012.

Walgreens-owned pharmacies, such as BioScrip, Duane Reade and Happy Harry’s will also be considered part of the pharmacy network. This new arrangement gives COVA HDHP members access to more than 64,000 in-network retail pharmacies across the country.

Anthem, which administers the COVA HDHP plan, is working with Express Scripts to ensure a smooth transition for members who may wish to transfer their prescriptions to Walgreens. In most cases, members may simply take their medicine bottle to the new drug store.

Flu Shot Program Planned Again for This Fall

The state health benefits program will once again offer state health plan members free flu shots at participating network pharmacies beginning in the early fall of 2012. Prescription drug program vendors are currently working to confirm the pharmacies that will be participating in the program. Details will be coming soon. As in previous years, the 2012-13 seasonal flu vaccine will be covered under the wellness and preventive care provisions of the state health benefits program.

If you are a Benefits Administrator with agency locations that include both COVA Care and COVA Connect participants, and are planning a flu shot clinic, please be sure the pharmacy that conducts your clinic participates with both programs.