

## Reminder: Out-of-Network Medicare Providers Can Treat Group Medicare Advantage Open Access (PPO) Members

As a Medicare provider, you do not need to have a contract with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) to treat Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage Open Access (PPO) members.




As we announced in [November](#), Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage Open Access (PPO) is the new name of Blue Cross Medicare Advantage (PPO) Employer Group<sup>SM</sup>. This plan offers members access to care from any providers nationwide who accept Medicare assignment and are willing to bill BCBSTX. Members' coverage levels are the same in and out of network, and you will be paid the Medicare allowed amount.

### What you need to know

- Referrals are not required for office visits.
- Prior authorization may be required for certain Medicare-covered services.
- Out-of-network providers will be paid the Medicare allowed amount for covered services as defined by Medicare, less any member cost-sharing. In-network providers will be paid their contracted rate.
- For questions regarding eligibility, prior authorization or claims, call **1-877-299-1008**.

### Member ID card

Group Medicare Advantage Open Access (PPO) members will have the ID card below. Look for "Open Access" on the front.

 <p>BlueCross BlueShield of Texas</p> <p>Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage (PPO)<sup>SM</sup></p> <p>Name: SAMPLECARD ID: ZZT123456789 Plan (80840): 9101000260 Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage <b>Open Access</b> (PPO)<sup>SM</sup></p> <p>RxBin: RXBIN RxPCN: RXPCN RxGrp: RXGROUP RxID: RXID</p> <p>H1666 801</p> <p>Office Visit: \$ Specialist: \$ Emergency Room: \$</p> <p><b>SAMPLE FRONT</b></p> <p> Prescription Drug Coverage</p>	<p><a href="http://www.getbluetx.com/mapd">www.getbluetx.com/mapd</a></p>  <p>For Providers: 1-877-299-1008 TTY: 711 Pharmacy Help Desk: 1-877-277-7898</p> <p>For Members: Customer Service: 1-877-299-1008 TTY: 711 Nurse Advice Line: 1-800-631-7023</p> <p>File medical claims with your local plan</p> <p>Medicare Limiting Charges Apply</p> <p><small>PPO plans provided by Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company (HCSC), an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. HCSC is a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract.</small></p> <p><b>SAMPLE BACK</b></p>
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For additional details, view the document, [Group Medicare Advantage Open Access \(PPO\)](#).

Questions? Email the BCBSTX Medicare Advantage Network team at [TexasMedicareAdvantageNetwork@bcbstx.com](mailto:TexasMedicareAdvantageNetwork@bcbstx.com).

Out-of-network/non-contracted providers are under no obligation to treat Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage Open Access (PPO) members, except in emergency situations.



It is important to check eligibility and benefits for each patient before every scheduled appointment. Eligibility and benefit quotes include membership confirmation, coverage status and applicable copayment, coinsurance and deductible amounts. The benefit quote may also include information on applicable benefit prior authorization/pre-notification requirements. Ask to see the member's BCBSTX ID card and a driver's license or other photo ID to help guard against medical identity theft.




**BlueCross BlueShield  
of Texas**

Checking eligibility and benefits and/or obtaining benefit prior authorization/pre-notification or predetermination of benefits is not a guarantee that benefits will be paid. Payment is subject to several factors, including, but not limited to, eligibility at the time of service, payment of premiums/contributions, amounts allowable for services, supporting medical documentation, and other terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions set forth in your patient's policy certificate and/or benefits booklet and/or summary plan description. Regardless of any benefit determination, the final decision regarding any treatment or service is between you and your patient. If you have any questions, please call the number on the member's ID card.

PPO plans provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, which refers to HCSC Insurance Services Company (HISC). PPO employer/union group plans provided by Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company (HCSC). HCSC and HISC are Independent Licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. HCSC and HISC are Medicare Advantage organizations with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in these plans depends on contract renewal.

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