

DMERC

Medicare

News

DMERC Region A Service Office • P.O. Box 6800 • Wilkes-Barre, PA 18773-6800 • Phone (570) 735-9445 • www.medicare-link.com
Number 54 • September 2000 Special Edition

* Important Information from HealthNow NY, Inc. *

New Name for Region A DMERC

On September 22, 2000, the transition from United HealthCare to HealthNow NY, Inc. is expected to be complete. The new name for the Region A DMERC will be "HealthNow NY, Inc., DMERC A."

Bank Change

Once the DMERC transition is complete, the bank that issues payment for DMERC services will change from Citibank to Bank One.

Web Site Transition

As mentioned in the August 2000 Special Edition *DMERC Medicare News*, Number 53, DMERC information will soon no longer be accessible from United HealthCare's Web site. Effective September 22, 2000, suppliers will be able to access DMERC information on the HealthNow NY, Inc., Upstate Medicare Division (UMD) Web site at www.umd.nycpic.com.

All of the DMERC information that was included on United HealthCare's Web site will be included on UMD's site.

Bulletin Board System (BBS) Dark Days

From Thursday, September 21, 2000, 12:00 P.M. EDT, through Tuesday, September 26, 2000, 8:00 A.M. EDT, there will be no electronic access to the Bulletin Board System (BBS). During this time, you will be unable to perform electronic functions (e.g., claim transmission, claim status inquiry, eligibility verification). Our customer service representatives will also be unable to access claim status and eligibility information during this time; they will be able to provide only general coverage information. On Tuesday, September 26, 2000, at 8:00 A.M. EDT, claims processing functions will return to the original schedule.

Please check the HealthNow NY, Inc., Upstate Medicare Division (UMD) Web site at www.umd.nycpic.com on the evening of Monday, September 25, 2000, or the morning of Tuesday, September 26, 2000, for any updates regarding the transition dark days or claims processing readiness.

Crossover Insurance Plans

As part of the DMERC transition, trading partners who held crossover agreements with United HealthCare need to establish interim agreements with HealthNow NY, Inc., until new agreements can be executed.

Below is a list of the plans that have established interim crossover agreements with HealthNow NY, Inc., at the time this newsletter went to print. **Please note that we expect to receive other crossover agreements before the transition is final. For updates to this crossover plan listing, please call the transition hotline at (607) 766-6254, or check the HealthNow NY, Inc., Upstate Medicare Division (UMD) Web site at www.umd.nycpic.com.**

- AARP Health Care Options – United HealthCare
- American Family Life Assurance (AFLAC)
- American National Life Insurance Co. (Standard Life)
- American Postal Workers Union Health Plan (APWU)
- American Republic Insurance
- Anthem BCBS of New Hampshire

(continued on back page)

Crossover Insurance Plans *(continued)*

- Bankers Life & Casualty
 - BCBS of Delaware
 - BCBS of Maine
 - BCBS of Michigan
 - BCBS of Missouri
 - Central States Health
 - CT Department of Income Maintenance – EDS
 - Department of Human Services RI
 - Empire BCBS of NY
 - Government Employees Hospital Association (GEHA)
 - Group Health Inc.
 - Horizon BCBS of New Jersey
 - Massachusetts Medicaid
 - Monumental Life Insurance Company
 - Mutual of Omaha
 - National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC)
 - NJ (Department of Income Maintenance) Division of Medical Assistance (UNISYS)
 - PA Department of Income Maintenance
 - Pennsylvania Employee Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF)
 - Peoples Benefit Life Insurance Company
 - Physician's Mutual Insurance Company
 - Pioneer Life Insurance Company of Illinois (IL)
 - Pioneer Life Insurance Company of Illinois (WA)
 - SAMBA
 - Unicare
 - Union Fidelity Life Insurance (Combine Insurance)
 - United HealthCare
 - United Teachers Association
 - VT Department of Income Maintenance
 - WorldNet Services Corporation
-

DMERC Medicare News

United HealthCare Insurance Company • P.O. Box 6800 • Wilkes-Barre, PA 18773-6800

First Class
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Hartford, Conn.
Permit No. 2320