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BRIEF

Bi-monthly newsletter to keep you connected

Urgent: Announcement regarding BCBS MA PPO participation

Beth Israel Lahey Health
Performance Network



Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you of an upcoming change that may affect some of your Medicare Advantage patients. Beth Israel Lahey Health Performance Network (BILHPN) and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (BCBSMA) have mutually agreed to end our primary care providers' (PCPs) participation in the BCBSMA Medicare Advantage PPO plan, effective **January 1, 2026**.

This means that, beginning January 1, 2026, BILHPN-contracted PCPs will no longer be in-network for the BCBSMA Medicare Advantage PPO plan.

What is not changing:

This change does not impact hospitals or specialty care. All BILHPN hospitals and specialists will remain in-network for patients covered under the BCBSMA Medicare Advantage PPO plan. In addition, BILHPN will continue to participate in BCBSMA's Medicare Advantage HMO plan. Patients who wish to continue to see their current primary care providers will have the option to choose a different health plan during Medicare Open Enrollment which runs from October 15 – December 7, 2025. We remain in-network with major Medicare Advantage insurance plans, including Aetna, Fallon Community Health Plans, Tufts Medicare Preferred, and United Healthcare. Coverage and provider participation may vary, and patients are encouraged to confirm directly with the insurance plan to ensure their individual coverage needs are met. In certain specific situations, patients may qualify for continuity of care, subject to BCBSMA approval. For detailed information regarding continuity of care, patients should contact BCBSMA member services by calling the number on the back of their insurance card. This was a difficult, but necessary decision to help ensure we have the resources to continue providing the best care possible to our patients, retain and recruit talented clinicians, invest in primary care and quality initiatives, and maintain outstanding facilities. Even with this change, we remain committed to preserving access to BILH care wherever possible.

Supporting you and your patients:

We recognize the impact this will have on you and your patients and understand that this may raise questions and concerns. We remain fully committed to supporting you through this transition period.

To assist you in addressing patient concerns, we have developed a set of [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). These materials are available on our provider webpage at bilhpn.org/bcbsma-faqs.

Patients will be notified directly by mail and through MyBILH Chart. We are also including [talking points](#) to help guide your conversations with patients about this change.

If you have immediate questions, please reach out to your local leader or email Networkrelations@bilh.org.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our patients and for the exceptional care you provide every day.

Beth Roberts, MBA

President

Beth Israel Lahey Health Performance Network

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached via email at PLLCAdministration@bidmc.harvard.edu or leave me a message at (617) 632-9728 and I will get back to you.



Deb Schoenthaler, Executive Director



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