

## Notice to Montana Groups: Prime Pharmacy Network Change Effective Jan. 1, 2017

Effective Jan. 1, 2017 (regardless of renewal date), CVS pharmacies and CVS pharmacies in a Target store will no longer be a part of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT) standard pharmacy network, administered by Prime Therapeutics.

This network change impacts fully insured groups and retail markets, including College/University Student Health Plans.

BCBSMT works closely with Prime Therapeutics to continuously assess our pharmacy networks and offerings to ensure we are maintaining affordable benefits for our members, including obtaining competitive reimbursement rates from participating pharmacies within Prime's network. During ongoing negotiations, CVS Pharmacy requested a higher reimbursement rate for generic prescriptions in comparison to other pharmacies. Therefore, BCBSMT has made the decision to no longer include CVS pharmacies within the pharmacy network.

Members will continue to have access to more than 55,000 nationwide pharmacies in network (without CVS), with more than 200 located within Montana. This includes many major pharmacy chains such as Walgreens, Walmart, Albertsons (including Osco Drug and Safeway), Shopko, Costco and many independent pharmacies. In every county where we have a presence, we exceed network adequacy standards set by Montana with the remaining pharmacies in network.

BCBSMT is committed to helping our members find the most convenient alternative for their pharmacy coverage needs. Impacted members, who have had a recent CVS claim, will be notified 60 days in advance with a letter to be sent in October. In addition, if members need help finding a network pharmacy, they can call the Pharmacy Program number on the back of their insurance card or access our online searchable directory at <a href="http://www.myprime.com/en/find-pharmacy.html">www.myprime.com/en/find-pharmacy.html</a>.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact your account representative.

The relationship between Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) and Contracting Pharmacies is that of Independent Contractors, contracted through a related company, Prime Therapeutics, LLC. Prime Therapeutics also administers the pharmacy benefit program. BCBSIL, as well as several other independent Blue Cross Plans, has an ownership interest in Prime Therapeutics.