



It's good to be Blue.

October 2016

Creditable Coverage Period: Plan Year 2017

Dear Group Leader:

In an effort to make your Medicare-eligible employees aware of their health coverage options, we are providing you with important information related to your health plan coverage and Medicare prescription drug coverage. Please provide your covered employees who are eligible for Medicare with this information.

We have determined that your current health plan prescription drug coverage is "creditable" under Medicare rules, which means it is, on average, expected to pay out as much as the standard Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan. Your covered employees who are eligible for Medicare have these options:

Option 1: Keep their existing health plan prescription coverage. If they later decide to enroll in a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan, they will not have to pay an extra penalty amount.

Option 2: Drop their existing prescription drug coverage and enroll in a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan. If they drop existing coverage and wait 63 days or longer before enrolling in a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan, they could end up paying more each month. Note: Your current benefit plan is an integrated plan containing both prescription and medical benefits. Therefore, if your employees cancel their prescription drug benefits, medical benefits will also cancel resulting in no coverage.

This year, your employees will have the opportunity to enroll in a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan between October 15 and December 7. **Your employees may need to keep a copy of this notice to show that they do not need to pay a higher premium amount for Part D coverage.**

Your covered employees who are eligible for Medicare should compare their current coverage with the coverage provided by Medicare prescription drug plans they are considering. Your employees should compare which drugs are covered, what the coverage pays, and what the plans cost. More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is available at www.medicare.gov, by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) and in the "Medicare & You" handbook.

If you have any questions, please call our Customer Service Center, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at 601-664-4590 or 1-800-942-0278. Helping you make informed healthcare decisions is one of the many reasons why now, more than ever, it's good to be Blue.

Best of health,

Bryan A. Lagg
Senior Vice President
Consumer Marketing and Sales