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January 12, 2021

BCBSNM San Juan IPA Contracting Update

On Dec. 31, 2020, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico's (BCBSNM) three-year contract with San Juan IPA expired. BCBSNM's goal is to provide a stable network for our members. Unfortunately, every three years, and sometimes during those three years, BCBSNM's networks are destabilized by the way San Juan IPA builds and handles its contract with BCBSNM.

This approach is not in the best interest of BCBSNM's employer groups (i.e. NMPSIA) and members and puts the stability of their networks at risk. As difficult as this may be, in order to improve network stability for members, BCBSNM needs to transition to direct contracts with providers. Contracting directly with providers also provides BCBSNM with a better opportunity to collaborate with providers to enhance the health and wellness of the communities that are served.

BCBSNM is making significant progress in directly contracting with the provider groups that participate with San Juan IPA. BCBSNM has currently contracted with nearly 80% of the providers in San Juan County that are San Juan IPA participating providers, and we expect this number to increase over the next few weeks.

It is important to note that San Juan Regional Medical Center employed doctors and other providers are now directly contracted with BCBSNM for all networks and for all covered services. San Juan Regional Medical Center hospital continues to be contracted.

If you would like to help bring more provider groups and BCBSNM together, you may want to encourage your provider to sign a direct contract with BCBSNM if they have not already done so.

NMPSIA will allow members to switch to either Cigna or Presbyterian while contract negotiations continue. Please review the respective networks to ensure that your provider is contracted prior to switching medical carriers.

Thank you for your support as BCBSNM works diligently on behalf of our members to ensure a stable network in San Juan County.

If you have any further questions, please call NMPSIA at 1-800-548-3724.