

# Brief Notes

News for  
Brokers and Consultants

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3 Penn Plaza East, Newark, NJ 07105-2200

**Applies to:** All markets

## Deborah Heart and Lung Center terminates from the Horizon Hospital Network

Deborah Heart and Lung Center has terminated its hospital contract with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey. Under state law, the terms of Horizon BCBSNJ's hospital contract with Deborah Heart and Lung Center are extended for four months through November 10, 2011, and Horizon HMO, Horizon Medicare Blue Value (HMO) and Horizon EPO members may continue to use Deborah Heart and Lung Center as a network hospital through November 10, 2011 (prior authorization must be obtained when required).

Under the terms of Horizon BCBSNJ's contract, other Horizon BCBSNJ members may continue to use Deborah Heart and Lung Center at an in-network level of benefits through November 10, 2011 (prior authorization must be obtained when required) as a period for transition of care. Beginning November 11, 2011, Deborah Heart and Lung Center will no longer be a Horizon BCBSNJ network hospital for any Horizon BCBSNJ member.

Horizon BCBSNJ continually works to maintain a balance between keeping health care affordable for our 3.6 million members and reimbursing our network health care professionals and hospitals reasonably and fairly. We take this obligation seriously.

As always, we are focused on ensuring that our members have access to needed care. We are working with our large network of hospitals and physicians to minimize the disruption caused by this action. We are also in the process of sending letters to our affected members with a list of alternative Horizon BCBSNJ network hospitals.

Please see below for answers to questions you may have about this change in our network.

**Q1. How do these changes affect my clients' benefits?**

**A1.** Your clients and their employees have the same basic health plan benefits. Horizon HMO, Horizon Medicare Blue Value (HMO) and Horizon EPO members, however, receive nonemergency hospital coverage only when they use hospitals in the Horizon Hospital Network.

*(Continues)*

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Horizon POS, Horizon Direct Access, Horizon PPO, Horizon Medicare Blue Access (HMO-POS) and other Horizon BCBSNJ members pay lower out-of-pocket costs and realize maximum coverage benefits by using our Horizon Hospital Network.

**Q2. What should my clients do in a medical emergency?**

A2. In case of a medical emergency, your clients should go to the nearest emergency facility, without worrying about network affiliations.

**Q3. When do these changes take effect?**

A3. Deborah Heart and Lung Center terminated its contract with Horizon BCBSNJ, effective 12:01 a.m., Eastern Time, July 10, 2011.

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We encourage all members to use network hospitals to maximize their benefits and minimize their out-of-pocket costs.

**Q4. How can my clients find out about other hospitals in the network?**

A4. Your clients have a choice of network hospitals throughout New Jersey and nearby in New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware. They can search for hospitals participating in the Horizon Hospital Network by visiting our website, [www.HorizonBlue.com](http://www.HorizonBlue.com), and using the *Provider Directory* search tool.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause your clients and their employees. Please contact your Horizon BCBSNJ sales representative, if you have any questions.