

Starting January 1, 2007 the Group Health Benefits Committee is pleased to announce a NEW PROGRAM that is designed to provide participants with necessary information and resources to assist in managing chronic conditions, such as:

- Asthma,
- Coronary Artery Disease,
- Congestive Heart Failure,
- Diabetes and High Blood Pressure.

The program is FREE OF CHARGE to eligible participants in the PPO program (the HMO program has their own disease management program).

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR HEALTH! Following is a brief explanation of this new program being provided through Boon Chapman. If you have any questions, please contact Boon Chapman (PRIME Dx) at 800 477-4625.

**Overview:** Disease management has the twin goals of cost savings and improved participant health. Our program utilizes claims data, pharmacy data and assessment information to identify participants with certain medical conditions in order to provide some level of care management/or intervention to each participant with a diagnosis of asthma, Coronary Artery Disease, Congestive Heart failure, Diabetes or High Blood Pressure. The program is founded on clinical practice guidelines from nationally recognized sources such as the American Diabetes Association. Case management and pharmacy services are integrated into this program which is designed to function as an adjunct to clinical care provided by providers.

This new program has the following objectives:

1. Provide consistency in long-term management approaches to participants with these conditions
2. Help participants achieve optimal levels of wellness through:
  - a) Improving the participant's understanding of his/her disease
  - b) Increasing provider awareness and participation with recommended treatment modalities
  - c) Initiating early collaborative Health Plan and physician conversations when specific indicators are not met
  - d) Promoting increased compliance with treatment protocols
  - e) Monitoring participant condition, including consideration of other health conditions and life-style issues
3. Reduce emergency room/inpatient admissions

The Group Health Benefits Committee hopes this new benefit will help improve the health of participants in the plan.