

Communication Matters



Open patient communication is a necessary component of providing informed patient care. With all the treatment options available today, sometimes the patient is left out of the loop when it comes to understanding the advantages of making the right treatment choice. As an in-network provider with Health Partners, we encourage you to openly communicate with your patients regarding appropriate treatment options, regardless of benefit coverage limitations.

Contract News (Continued)

ppoNEXT Contract Terminates as of November 15, 2009



Over the last 2 years, since Beech Street's acquisition of ppoNEXT, steps have been taken to integrate operations, and now the final steps have taken place and the two have merged doing business under Beech Street. Therefore, the Beech Street contract will remain in place, whereas, the ppoNEXT contract will be terminated effective November 15, 2009.

During this transition period, clients may have ID cards with either logo, and offices may receive explanations of payments with reference to either Beech Street or ppoNEXT. Provider offices are encouraged to send claims to the address shown on the ID cards.

If you have any further questions, please contact Beech Street Customer Service Representatives at 1-877-44-VIANT (877-448-4268).

ALLIANT HEALTH PLANS REQUIRES PRIOR AUTHORIZATION EFFECTIVE 1-1-2010 FOR THE FOLLOWING MEDICATIONS:

- Botox (Botulinum Toxin Type A) injections
Reclast infusions
Remicade infusions
Soliris infusions
Synagis injections
Tysabri infusions



Congratulations...

Melissa D. Ketchum* got married to Greg S. Corral on October 24, 2009. Please join us in congratulating the newly married couple on their married life together.

*Please note Melissa's new last name and contact information below:

Melissa D. Corral, CPC; Provider Relations/Contracting Representative

Email: Melissa.Corral@nghs.com

Phone Number: 770-219-6603

PARTNERS PRESS HealthPartners the complete network solution WINTER 2010

WELCOME

- Barbara H. Arnold, LCSW—Social Worker; Toccoa Clinic Medical Associates
Dennis Dukes, DO—Emergency Medicine; Stephens County Hospital
Mary Jo Eline, DO—Radiology; Stephens County Hospital
Daniel Esteves, MD—OB/GYN; Lakeside OB/GYN & Pelvic Surgery Center
Tammy E. Finley, MD—Family Medicine; Cornerstone Family Medicine
Roy Goldblatt, MD—Emergency Medicine; Stephens County Hospital
Adam S. Green, MD—Radiology; Stephens County Hospital
Jack A. Harris, MD—Ophthalmology; Toccoa Clinic Medical Associates
Daniel J. Holtz, MD—General Surgery; Habersham Surgical Services
Nayer Islam, MD—Radiology; Stephens County Hospital
Georgina H. Kalaitzidis, MD—Family Medicine; Northeast Georgia Physicians Group-Lanier Park
George G. Kitchens, MD—Otolaryngology; Toccoa Clinic Medical Associates
John A. Krowicki, MD—Emergency Medicine; Stephens County Hospital
Oguguo Okoye, MD—Emergency Medicine; Stephens County Hospital
Chadwick M. Palmer, MD—Sports Medicine; Northeast Georgia Physicians Group-Advantage Sports Medicine
Chirag H. Parikh, MD—Ophthalmology; North GA Eye Clinic
Julia H. Strong, LCSW—Social Worker; Solo Practitioner
John W. Thomas, MD—Ophthalmology; North Georgia Eye Clinic
Agnieszka A. Wesolowski, MD—Neonatology; The Longstreet Clinic
David L. Whitaker, MD—Otolaryngology; Toccoa Clinic Medical Associates
Morgan C. Wood, MD—Emergency Medicine; Stephens County Hospital
Andrew D. Yen, MD—Cardiovascular Disease; Northeast Georgia Heart Center
Paul Zitowitz, LCSW—Social Worker; Toccoa Clinic Medical Associates

Provider Handbook and Directory Updated for 2010!

All Health Partners' provider offices should have received the new CD version of the updated provider handbook. We request that you share this information with you front office, billing and pre-cert/prior auth. staff. Also, please take a moment to complete the questionnaire and respond as requested. Health Partners is committed to assisting our provider office's, so if you have any suggestions, please do not hesitate in contacting us.

2010 Credentialing Committee Meeting Dates: March 24th, June 23rd, September 22nd

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NORTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH PARTNERS®
1405 Jesse Jewell Parkway Gainesville, Georgia 30501
770-219-6600
www.healthpartnersnetwork.com

Health Partners Provider News

Provider Relocations, Changes and Terminations*

Please note the correction to the Hoschton location for **Northeast Georgia Heart Center**: 5875 Thompson Mill Road, Suite 360, Hoschton, GA 30548. Their office number is 770-297-1106.

The office of Dr. Gary P. McCarthy (**Soque Orthopedics**) has moved as of October 12, 2009. The new physical address is 800 Austin Drive, Demorest, GA 30535. The office number remains the same for scheduling: 706-839-4095.

The correct phone/fax numbers for **Kid's Health @ Sherwood Park** (office of Kelly J. Hulse, MD) are as follows: phone number, 770-536-1245, and fax number, 770-536-7989.

The **Longstreet Clinic—OB/GYN** providers' have added an additional location at 4445 S. Lee Street, Suite 300, Buford, GA 30566. This office phone number is 770-297-2200.

As of January 1, 2010, **Frank E. McDonald, MD** combined his solo practice with The Longstreet Clinic. He will remain at his current location at 1498 Jesse Jewell Parkway, Suite A, Gainesville, GA 30501. The office phone number remains the same; 770-771-6916.

The practice of **Northeast Georgia Surgical Associates** will now be known as **Northeast Georgia Physicians Group—Surgical Associates**. Their office address and phone number remain the same; 1075B Jesse Jewell Parkway, Gainesville, GA 30501, and 770-536-5733.

Union General Hospital had an address change due to the E-911 mapping system in their area. The new address is 214 Hospital Circle, Blairsville, GA 30512.

Greg Varnadore, MD also had an address change due to the E-911 mapping system in the area. The new address is 231 Falls Road, Toccoa, GA 30577.

Dr. Marc S. Coan and Dr. Jaime D. Rich also provide sleep medicine services at **Foothills Sleep Center**. The address for this office is 286 Big A Road, Toccoa, GA 30577; and the phone number is 706-827-2630.

The correct phone and fax number for the **Northeast Georgia Physicians Group—Chestnut Mountain** office is: phone number, 770-965-0847 and fax number, 770-965-0974.

Effective March 1, 2010, **Antonio Rios, MD** will begin seeing patients at his new office located at 1315 Jesse Jewell Parkway, Suite 110, Gainesville, GA 30501. The office number is 770-219-0023.

Habersham Surgical Services, office of Dr. Robert T. Buchanan, had an address correction due to the incorrect E-911 address given previously; the new address is 1678 Falls Road, Toccoa, GA 30577.

Shaena H. Blevins, MD (Northeast Georgia Physicians Group—Neurology) will now be seeing patients at 77 Weaver Road, Suite B in Blairsville, GA. The phone number is 706-835-1914.

Effective February 1, 2010, **Dr. Alfredo J. Jaume and Dr. William A. Manus** (formerly with MedLink-Gainesville) will be joining **The Longstreet Clinic** at 725 Jesse Jewell Parkway, Gainesville, GA 30501. To reach their new office, call 770-297-5650.



***REMINDER!** We ask that you notify us in writing of changes that occur in your practice. Please submit all additions and changes to Melissa Corral by way of facsimile to 770-219-6609, by email to Melissa.Corral@nghs.com, or online at www.healthpartnersnetwork.com.

The following providers will no longer participate with Health Partners upon the date listed below:

Provider	Date
American Homecare Supply Georgia, LLC and American Homecare Supply Georgia IV, LLC	November 1, 2009
Nahid Sultana, MD	November 1, 2009
Elizabeth Littlefield, MD	November 20, 2009
Jeffrey A. Lamp, MD	December 31, 2009
Jeffrey D. Lev, MD	February 1, 2010
Sheryl S. Wiles, MD	February 1, 2010



www.alliantplans.com

Contract News Scovill Fasteners Terminates Contract with Health Partners

Effective January 1, 2010

Health Partners regrets to announce the termination of our relationship with Scovill Fasteners, effective January 1st. Scovill Fasteners insured approximately 200 employees. Health Partners has been informed that the group has switched to fully insured with Blue Cross Blue Shield. Please request a new copy of all Scovill members' ID cards. If you have additional questions, please contact the number listed on the ID card.

Contract News continued on the back.

Health Partners' Partnership ID Card Samples



For Alliant Health Plans, when visiting their website to verify eligibility, use only the patient's name and DOB to check member status. If your office is not currently set-up for these features, please contact Angie Fussell at 678-767-5944, or by email to afussell@alliantplans.com. **Recently Added Groups:** Gold Creek Foods as of October 1st, Gainesville Gynecology as of November 1st, and Grover River Mills, Inc. and High Mountain Healthcare as of December 1st.



www.aahps.com



For Athens Area Health Plan Select, visit their website and review the resources available online for 'Providers'. If you have not registered to use their ePower tools, please contact Provider Relations at 706-549-0549, opt. 5. **Recently Added Groups:** CMC of Georgia, Cornerstone Counseling, First American Bank & Trust, Industrial Mechanical, Rabun-Gap Nacoochee School, Raybon OB/GYN, Whitehead Diecasting, and as of **January 1, 2010, Toccoa Clinic Medical Associates** (formerly with Health Partners as a self-insured group).



www.consumerslife.com



GROUP MEMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE	DEDUCTIBLE	
		In Network	Out of Network
COBRA		\$ 1000 / \$ 2000	\$ 4200 / \$ 6000
DEDUCTIBLE		10%	10%
COBRA		1 38	1 48
AMBULANCE COBAY		1 50	1 30
LEB RIDE COBAY		1 00	1 00
OUTPATIENT: Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy, Chiropractic Copy		1 00	1 00
PRESCRIPTION DRUG - Retail		1 50	1 50
PRESCRIPTION DRUG - Mail Order		\$150/00150	\$27.50/0125

*Only back of ID card shown above; logos that appear on the front are shown to the left.

For Consumers Life/Health Partners Community Advantage, visit their website and review the resources available for 'Providers'. If you have any questions, please contact provider services at 800-362-1279. **Recently Added Groups:** Gainesville Mechanical, Crane Transport, Carnes Construction, and Express Care of Habersham.