



Piedmont Termination from the BCBSGA Provider Network Effective April 1, 2018

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia (BCBSGA) notified Fulton County that they have not reached an agreement with **Piedmont Hospitals & Piedmont Clinic Physician Group** for a new contract and as of April 1, 2018 the current agreement expired. This means that **Piedmont Hospitals** (*except for Piedmont Rockdale Hospital & Columbus Regional Health Care System*) and the **Piedmont Clinic Physician Group** will no longer be an in-network care provider with BCBSGA. Any claims for non-emergency service rendered by Piedmont will be considered out-of-network and will be reimbursed as out-of-network under the terms of our benefit plan. This change includes doctors who are part of Piedmont Clinic and doctors who only admit to Piedmont Hospitals and do not have admitting privileges to another in-network hospital. Retirees enrolled in the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia (BCBSGA) HMO Plan as well as retirees who utilized a Piedmont provider within the past six months received communication from BCBSGA regarding ongoing contract negotiations.

How does this affect my coverage?

HSA, POS and PPO Plan Enrollees: *Since Piedmont is no longer an in-network provider with BCBSGA, you need to use another in-network care provider for non-emergencies to receive the highest level of benefits from your health care coverage.* If you choose to use an out-of-network care provider, your share of the cost will be greater. Additionally, the care provider may bill you for the difference between the allowed reimbursement and their billed charges.

HMO Plan Enrollees: *Since Piedmont is no longer an in-network provider you need to use another in-network care provider for non-emergencies in order to get in-network benefits.* To eliminate lack of access to care resulting from the contract termination, BCBSGA assigned new primary care physicians (PCPs) and mailed new ID cards to retirees enrolled in the HMO Plan (who have Piedmont physicians as their PCPs). Retirees may change the PCP selection online or by calling customer service. Note that if you choose to see an out-of-network care provider for non-emergency services, you will have to pay for the full cost of the services you receive.

What if I am currently in treatment for a medical condition?

If you are currently receiving active treatment from Piedmont for a specific medical condition, you may be eligible for continuity of care benefits for a **limited time period**. These benefits will allow you to continue to receive services at the in-network benefit levels.

Questions?

BCBSGA representatives can assist you with any questions regarding these benefits. For a complete list of the network of choices offered by BCBSGA, visit www.bcbsga.com or call member services at (800)-474-2227. For more information visit bcbsga.com/piedmont.