

Empire BlueCross BlueShield

Chiropractic Benefit Plan

American Specialty Health (ASH) is pleased to announce that **Empire BlueCross BlueShield (Empire)** is offering **chiropractic** benefits through ASH Group to **Suffolk County employees** under PPO and POS Benefit Plans effective **December 1, 2019**. We are excited about the addition of this new employer group as it will provide more opportunity to increase your patient base.

The administration of benefits for this new group will mirror the existing commercial benefit plan currently managed by ASH Group.

This new benefit plan will be administered as follows:

- ❖ **Member access area:** Members are able to access care in the following:
 - **New York** counties: Albany, Bronx, Broome, Chenango, Clinton, Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Herkimer, Kings, Montgomery, Nassau, New York, Orange, Otsego, Putnam, Queens, Rensselaer, Richmond, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, Warren, Washington and Westchester
 - **Connecticut** counties: Fairfield and Litchfield
 - **Massachusetts** county: Berkshire
 - **New Jersey** counties: Bergen, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Passaic, Sussex and Union
 - **Pennsylvania** counties: Pike and Wayne
 - **Vermont** counties: Addison, Bennington, Chittenden and Rutland
- ❖ **Eligibility and Benefit Verification:** Contact ASH by accessing ASHLink® (www.ashlink.com) or by calling 800.972.4226, option 1 to verify member eligibility and benefit information.
- ❖ **Clinical Services Program:** Client allows Medically Necessary Services for Covered Conditions to be eligible for reimbursement as a Covered Service. ASH Group evaluation and approval of a Medical Necessity Review Form (MNR) is required for reimbursement of all Covered Services after the Member's **tenth (10th) visit** in the calendar year. Submit MNR Forms to ASH Group.
 - The Clinical Performance System does not apply for these members.
- ❖ **Claims:** This is a self-funded employer group through Empire BlueCross BlueShield so claims should be sent directly to Empire at the address listed on the Member's identification card. Any inquiries regarding claims should be directed to Empire at the phone number listed on the Member's identification card.

Reimbursement for covered services will be made according to the existing **Empire BlueCross BlueShield (EPO, & PPO; Benefit Plan) Client Summary and Fee Schedules**. The Client Summary will be updated shortly to reflect this change and will be available on ASHLink (www.ashlink.com) by logging in and selecting the *Resources* tab > *Client Summaries*.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this Notice or wish to activate your ASHLink account for a more convenient way to verify member eligibility and benefits and to access the most current versions of all your ASH materials, please contact our Customer Service department at 800.972.4226, option 2. Our agents are available to assist you Monday through Friday from 8 am to 9 pm Eastern Time.