A Message to

# *Business Office Managers*

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TO: All AmeriHealth Contracting Ancillary Providers

FROM: Michael S. Zollenberg
Director, Hospital and Ancillary Services

DATE: September 11, 2006

SUBJECT: **Second Request- National Provider Identifier**

We are writing to remind you of our effort to obtain your National Provider Identifiers (NPIs) and record them in our processing systems prior to the May 23, 2007, compliance date mandated by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

### *No Record of Your Response to Initial NPI Mailing*

We sent you our initial NPI mailing in May 2006, including a bulletin with enclosed Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and a pre-populated NPI Submission Form. The NPI Submission Form included your provider numbers currently reflected in our records.

**We have not received a response from your organization as of August 30**. Your response is required so that we can record your NPIs, if already obtained, in our processing systems prior to the May 23, 2007, HIPAA compliance date.

Enclosed for your convenience is an updated copy of our initial mailing, including an NPI submission form pre-populated with information from our records. Please use the enclosed submission form to report your NPI.

### *Advantages to You and Independence Blue Cross*

While we understand that you have until May 23, 2007, to obtain an NPI, the submission of your NPI numbers now facilitates:

- Our ability to load your NPIs into our processing systems prior to the HIPAA compliance date.
- The development and testing of a reliable crosswalk, linking your NPIs to your existing provider identification numbers.
- Accurate and streamlined processing of claims using your NPIs by the HIPAA compliance date.

### *Submitting Your NPI*

Please return the completed NPI Submission Form, along with a copy of your hospital's NPI confirmation(s), **no later than October 15, 2006** to: **Charlene Misak** at **Fax: 215-238-7903**

The NPI Submission Form must be signed and dated by the designated representative authorized to sign on behalf of your organization; detailed submission instructions are provided in the enclosed bulletin.

We greatly appreciate your immediate response to this request. This initiative will help ensure that your NPIs are loaded into our processing systems prior to May 23, 2007. If you have any questions about the NPI or the NPI application process, please contact your Ancillary Service Coordinator or the Ancillary Services Department at 856-778-6500 or 732-726-6700.

Enclosures