

Pharmacy Benefact

A BULLETIN FOR PHARMACY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS

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Preferred Provider Networks (PPN) or providing discounts on prescription drugs

As the pharmaceutical environment continues to change, more third party plan sponsors are moving forward with Preferred Provider Networks (PPN's).

Under the *Alberta Blue Cross Pharmaceutical Services Provider Agreement (ABCPSPA)*, the Best Price Policy is in place to ensure Alberta Blue Cross plan members receive the lowest price available. If discounts are provided to other third-party plan members or cash-paying customers, you must give the same discount to the Alberta Blue Cross plan members.

Section 3.6 of the *ABCPSPA* states:

For a Pharmaceutical Service which is a Drug Benefit:

- (a) The Provider will not knowingly:
 - (i) charge Plan Members more than the Best Price,
 - (ii) submit a Claim for more than the Best Price, and
 - (iii) collect from Plan Members nor attempt to collect from Plan Members, either directly or indirectly, any amount which exceeds the Best Price;
- (b) Alberta Blue Cross is not required to pay a Claim for more than the Best Price; and
- (c) Nothing in this Section 3.6 is intended to restrict the Provider from setting or determining its charges, prices and/or fees for Drug Benefits provided to its customers who are not Plan Members.

As a reminder, if you provide a discount to other third-party plan members or cash-paying customers, under the *ABCPSPA*, you are obligated to provide the same discount to Alberta Blue Cross plan members. If you wish to view the terms of the *ABCPSPA* in its entirety, please visit ab.bluecross.ca and click on providers.

When you have questions:

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at:

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area) • 403-294-4041 (Calgary and area) • 1-800-361-9632 (toll free)
FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area) • FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free)



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