

MEDICARE PART A BULLETIN

August 08, 1997

General Medicare Bulletin G-296

TO: All Medicare Providers

FROM: Andy DePirro, Director, Program Relations

SUBJECT: **NEW TRADING PARTNER FOR THE COORDINATION OF BENEFITS
(COB) PROCESS: AFLAC**

ATTENTION MEDICARE BUSINESS OFFICE MANAGER: Please distribute to all appropriate health care facility personnel, including your Blue Cross/Blue Shield (private insurance) business office staff.

Medicare Part A, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Inc., is pleased to announce that we acquired American Family Life Assurance Company (AFLAC) as a new trading partner under the Coordination of Benefits (COB) process, effective July 31, 1997. As a result, we began forwarding Medicare Part A claim data for supplemental payment consideration to AFLAC effective July 31, 1997.

Following is a complete list of the current COB trading partners active with Medicare Part A, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Inc.

TRADING PARTNER (PLAN) FREQUENCY	PLAN CODE	TRANSMISSION
Bankers Life and Casualty ("Med-Select" members only)	Not Applicable	Weekly (*)
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Central New York	305	Daily (**)
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida	090	Daily (**)
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois	121	Daily (**)
Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield	300 and 303	Daily (**)
Medicaid	Not Applicable	Weekly (*)
Unisys FSEIP	USGP32301	Weekly (*)
Capital Blue Cross	Not Applicable	Daily (**)

TRADING PARTNER (PLAN) FREQUENCY	PLAN CODE	TRANSMISSION
Pioneer Life	Not Applicable	Weekly (*)
AFLAC	Not Applicable	Weekly (*)

NOTE: Payment data is forwarded weekly (via tape or cartridge) for all trading partners indicated with an asterisk (*). Payment data is forwarded daily (via electronic mode) for all trading partners indicated with double asterisks (**).

The current COB process, which was implemented March 23, 1995, produces a maximum number of crossover prospects because of the following features:

The crossover file format is a standard format. Use of a standard format makes it possible for a greater number of insurers to receive claims from Medicare fiscal intermediaries since they do not have to accommodate individual proprietary formats:

and

The enhanced process utilizes the supplemental insurers' eligibility file data, in addition to information furnished via claim submission, to determine crossover prospects and automatically forward appropriate claims payment data.

We will continue to actively pursue opportunities to contract with new trading partners, such as the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). Any supplemental insurance entity interested in participating in our COB partnership can obtain more information by contacting our COB Coordinator (904/791-8726).

Questions regarding this bulletin may be addressed to the Medicare Part A Customer Service Department by calling (904) 355-8899.