



STAT Bulletin

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To: All providers

Contracts affected: All lines of business

New Member ID Card Prefixes

<p>Why you're receiving this stat</p>	<p>We want to let you know that, beginning April 15, 2018, member ID card prefixes for all BlueCross BlueShield plans will be expanded to include alpha-numeric prefixes.</p> <p>It's important that you review your systems to make sure you can accommodate alpha-numeric prefixes.</p>
<p>What you need to know</p>	<p>Member ID numbers currently begin with a three-character alpha-only prefix. To increase the prefix pool needed for BlueCross BlueShield plans, the prefix is being modified to allow numeric characters. Effective April 15, 2018, all BlueCross BlueShield plan and provider systems must be able to accept a prefix that includes a combination of alpha and numeric characters. You will continue to use the member prefix to conduct everyday transactions and to check eligibility and benefits as you do now.</p> <p>New prefixes ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will continue to be three characters. • can be alpha-only or a combination of alpha and numerical characters. • will always have at least one alpha character. • will not include the numbers 0 and 1 in any position.
<p>What you need to do</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please review all software programs you use and work with your vendors to ensure all systems can accommodate ID numbers containing alpha-numeric prefixes. All systems must be able to accept alpha-numeric prefixes by April 15, 2018. • If you are confident that your systems can process alpha-numeric prefixes, no further action is needed. • Continue to submit claims to BlueShield under your current filing practices. Your provider reimbursement has not changed.

If you have any questions regarding this stat, please contact Provider Service at 1-800-444-4552 or (518) 220-5620.