

Fact Sheet **Flu Season 2009-2010**

- Effective immediately, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield members can obtain a flu and/or pneumonia vaccine at a participating pharmacy and pay their tier 1 copay.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that “the single best way to prevent the flu is to get vaccinated each fall.”¹
- Anyone can get the flu. The CDC reports that the flu causes over 36,000 deaths every year in the United States.²
- The following local and chain pharmacies will be participating in the flu vaccine program this 2009-2010 flu season:
 - Albertsons
 - CVS
 - Kroger
 - Medicine Shoppes
 - Montpelier Pharmacy
 - Publix
 - Rite Aid
 - Safeway
 - Stanley Pharmacy
 - Rotz Pharmacy
 - Ukrops
 - Walgreens
- Not all stores in all states will be able to provide flu vaccine to Anthem members.
- **Members should check with individual stores to verify their participation in the program, availability of the vaccine, and determine how the individual pharmacies will be delivering the vaccine**, for example, whether they will be administering shots by appointment or through scheduled clinics.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/preventing “Preventing the Flu”, January 14, 2006

² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Inactivated Influenza Vaccine, What you need to Know, 2006-2007 (June 30, 2006).

- In addition, individual pharmacies not included in the list above may participate. If the pharmacy you usually use is not on this list, call your pharmacist to see if he or she is participating in Anthem's flu shot program this year.
- Members simply present their Anthem ID card and the claims will be billed by the pharmacist electronically, just like any other prescription drug claim.
- FluMist is not part of this program.
- Pneumonia is one of the most common causes of death in America from a vaccine-preventable disease.
- You are at an increased risk for pneumonia if you are age 65 or older. Every year, 10,000 – 15,000 Americans die from pneumonia.³
- You cannot get the flu or pneumonia from receiving the vaccine.
- **Additional information regarding coverage for the novel H1N1 (swine flu) vaccine will be provided by Anthem as soon as it becomes available.**

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³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/vaccine/pneumo>.