



BlueCross BlueShield of Vermont

Independent Licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

December 5, 2009

Dear Provider:

Thank you for your continued participation in the Catamount Blue Program. In accordance with the legislation* on January 1, 2010, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont (BCBSVT) will adjust the Catamount Blue professional fee schedule to account for the 2010 Medicare Economic Index (MEI), equal to 1.2%.

***Vermont State Legislation Sec. 13. 8 V.S.A. § 4080(f)(1):**

(f)(1) Except as provided for in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the carrier shall pay a health care professional the lowest of the health care professional's contracted rate, the health care professional's billed charges, or the rate derived from the Medicare payment methodologies, at a level ten percent greater than for levels paid under the Medicare program in 2006. Payments based on Medicare payment methodologies under this subsection shall be indexed to the Medicare economic index developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Future notification regarding annual Catamount Blue fee schedule changes will be posted to the bcbsvt.com provider portal under the "News from BCBSVT" area. Direct letters will no longer be sent.

Following the January 1, 2010 implementation date, we will be happy to provide you with a fee schedule of the top 25 codes for your practice. To request, please submit a written request, which should include: provider/practice name, NPI billing number, contact name, phone number, fax number (if available), the fee schedule you are requesting (BCBSVT/TVHP community and/or Catamount Blue) and HCPCS code(s).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Provider Relations Consultant at (888) 449-0443.

Sincerely,

John Bond
Director, Provider Relations