Blue Cross offers range of highly rated, affordable Medicare plans

Medicare beneficiaries have until December 7 to choose a Medicare Advantage plan

BOSTON, Oct. 20, 2017 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- With the Annual Open Enrollment period for Medicare under way, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (Blue Cross) has announced its broad suite of highly rated 2018 Medicare options to fit any budget, including several plans under $100 and one as low as $0 per month.

"We have been dedicated to serving Medicare customers for over 50 years and are proud that more Medicare beneficiaries choose our plans than any other health plan in Massachusetts," said Ken Arruda, Vice President of Medicare Markets for Blue Cross. "This year, we continue to offer a range of affordable plans. We encourage everyone to carefully review their options to find the best plan for them."

This year, our Blue MedicareRx Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) received 5 Stars out of 5 Stars from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for the second year in a row, making us the top PDP plan in New England. Our Medicare Advantage HMO and PPO plans are also high-rated plans at 4.5 Stars out of 5 Stars.[i]

And for 2018, we are again offering our $0 premium plan, Medicare PPO Blue SaverRx (PPO), which provides coverage to people with Medicare for original Medicare benefits plus additional benefits that Medicare doesn't generally cover, including Part D prescription drug coverage. People with this plan have access to in-network and out-of-network providers with no referral requirements.

Individuals with Medicare can choose the best Medicare Advantage and prescription drug coverage plan for their health care needs during the October 15 - December 7, 2017, open enrollment period, and enrollment is effective January 1, 2018. A Blue Cross Medex or Dental plan can be selected at any time of the year.

To learn more about Blue Cross' broad suite of Medicare coverage options and a list of covered medications and to find the plan that's right for you:

- Visit our newly redesigned website, www.bluecrossma.com/medicare, to use the online comparison tool.
- Call our nationally ranked call center[ii] at 1-800-678-2265 (TTY: 711), from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Eastern time, seven days a week, January 1 through February 14 and October 1 through December 31. From February 15 through September 30, you can call us 8 a.m. through 8 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Medicare beneficiaries can also contact:

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. TTY users call 1-877-486-2048.
- Serving the Health Information Needs of Everyone (SHINE), 1-800-243-4636.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts is an HMO and PPO Plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts depends on contract renewal.

Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc., Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Inc., Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island, and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont are the legal entities which have contracted as a joint enterprise with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and are the risk-bearing entities for Blue MedicareRx (PDP) plans. The joint

enterprise is a Medicare-approved Part D Sponsor. Enrollment in Blue MedicareRx (PDP) depends on contract renewal.

This information is not a complete description of benefits. Contact the plan for more informationLimitations, copayments, and restrictions may apply. Benefits, premiums and/or co-payments/co-insurance] may change onJanuary 1 of each year. You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium.

[i] Medicare evaluates plans based on a 5-star rating system. Star ratings are calculated each year and may change from one year to the next.

[ii] Benchmark Portal's 2016 Top 100 Call Center Contest; Benchmark Portal is not affiliated with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts or CMS, nor is the award given or endorsed by Medicare.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.
ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-800-200-4255 (TTY: 711).
ATENÇÃO: Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para. 1-800-200-4255 (TTY: 711).

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