

## Blue Card Basics

*October, 2005*

### Introduction

BlueCross and BlueShield providers serve over 93 million Blue members nationwide, including over 21.5 million national account members. We understand the importance of ensuring easy administration for you and we want your patients to have a positive experience with each visit.

As a result, we are committed to meeting your needs and expectations by giving you a single point of contact through Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota for claims, customer service and provider education-related inquiries.

### How to Identify Members

- BlueCard<sup>®</sup> members have a three-character alpha prefix at the beginning of their ID number. **The alpha prefix is key to facilitating prompt payment.**
- The member ID is a combination of alpha and numeric characters.

### Important Facts About the Alpha Prefix

- Do not assume that the member's ID number is the Social Security number. Many plans have re-issued ID cards with a different ID number.
- Be sure that all of your systems and upgrades accommodate a correct member ID, which may include both alphabetic and/or numeric characters following the 3 letter alpha prefix. Note too that while many ID numbers may be fewer than 17 characters, all will have an alpha prefix .
- Do not add or delete characters or numbers within the member ID
- Do not change the sequence of the characters following the alpha prefix.
- Please make copies of the front and back of the ID card, and pass this information to your billing staff.

		
TEST EMP NAME OR FREE FORM MAX 99 ELIZABETH M SAMPLENAME		
GROUP NUMBER <b>T0456-W0</b>	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER <b>XZM 9999999990</b>	
RxBIN <b>610455</b>	RxPCN <b>PGIGN</b>	Rx NETWRK <b>NATIONAL</b>
OFFICE COPAY <b>30.00</b>		

### BlueCard

- Identify by the three-digit alpha prefix in front of ID number and an empty suitcase or “PPO in a suitcase” logo
- The member may be covered through another Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Plan
- Call the BlueCard eligibility line to verify eligibility and get benefits: 1-800-676-2583