



BlueCross BlueShield of Central New York  
BlueCross BlueShield of the Rochester Area  
BlueCross BlueShield of Utica-Watertown  
EXCELLUS COMPANIES

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Independent Licensees of the BlueCross BlueShield Association

February 2003

**TO: Electronic Claim Filers**

**FROM: Trading Partner Support**

**SUBJECT: Important Information Regarding Electronic Claim Submission**

### **Important Change Coming Due to HIPAA**

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act is an important federal health-care regulation that will affect your daily operation. Recognizing this impact early will allow you to continue your normal daily electronic billing operation with our clearinghouse.

**Beginning Oct. 16, 2003, to be compliant with HIPAA, our clearinghouse can accept electronic claims in the ANSI formats listed below. We will no longer be able to accept claims in UB or NSF format.**

- Professional: ANSIX12N837P, version 004010X098
- Institutional: ANSIX12N837I, version 004010X096

**You must have converted to the ANSI format before Oct. 16 if you want your claims accepted through our clearinghouse.**

Electronic submitters must convert to ANSI format. If you are concerned about not meeting this mandate, please contact us to further discuss your options.

The clearinghouse was ready to begin testing with vendors on Feb. 18, 2003. We have notified your vendor of our clearinghouse testing timeframes. Please contact your vendor to discuss their testing timeframes, and to ensure that they will meet the transition date of Oct. 16, 2003.

If you have questions regarding these changes, please contact Trading Partner Support.

Rochester: (585) 238-4618 or (877) 843-8520  
Syracuse: (315) 448-4927  
Utica: (315) 798-4236 or (800) 872-4570

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important change.

cc: Vendors