



Effective JANUARY 1, 2012

BCBSM and BCN to Limit Supply of Specialty Drugs

Effective **January 1, 2012**, BCBSM and BCN will limit all specialty drugs to a 30-day supply. This includes mail order and the current 90-day retail option.

One of the main reasons for the change is to ensure members are not paying for a 90-day supply of highly expensive specialty drugs when they may need to discontinue use well before the supply is extinguished. Members may discontinue use for a variety of reasons (allergic reaction, no change in health status, etc.).

Specialty drugs are prescription medications that require special handling, administration or monitoring, and are used to treat complex, chronic and often costly conditions including asthma, cancer, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoporosis among others.

The Blues estimate this change will reduce drug costs by almost 1%. Currently, specialty drugs account for less than 1% of all prescriptions dispensed—but 17% of the total drug cost.

Questions:

If you have any questions regarding the Blues new policy on specialty drugs, please contact your J.S. Clark Agency Account Manager at **248.355.9600**.