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NEW YORK Provider Communications

New Blue HPN® network included in plans available for employee open enrollment Fall 2020

Published: Oct 1, 2020 - **Administrative**

As employers across the country host open enrollment periods for their employees, many will offer a new option this fall: plans built around a Blue High Performance Network (Blue HPN).

Blue HPN® plans offer access to providers with a record of delivering high-quality, efficient care. Blue HPN networks will go live January 1, 2021 in more than 50 cities across the country. Blue HPN is a national network designed from our local market expertise, deep data and strong provider relationships, and aligned with local networks across the country. These local networks are then connected to the national chassis to form a national Blue HPN network.

In New York, Empire BlueCross BlueShield (“Empire”) is offering large and small group employer plans access to the Blue HPN network, utilizing the existing Connection network as the New York HPN entry.

Beginning January 1, you may see patients accessing the Blue HPN/Connection Network through new products. These will be EPO plans or HSA plans with an EPO network. Under these plans, out of network benefits are limited to emergency or urgent care. Members must select a primary care provider, but PCP referrals are not required for specialty care.

If you are not sure whether your practice is part of the Blue HPN/Connection Network, ask your office manager or business office, or contact your Empire Provider Relations Representative. Blue HPN participation will be displayed in provider profiles in our online provider directory January 1, 2021.

693-1020-PN-NY

URL: <https://providernews.empireblue.com/article/new-blue-hpn-network-included-in-plans-available-for-employee-open-enrollment-fall-2020-5>

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October 2020 Empire Provider News

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