



July 12, 2006

Dear Physicians Plus Provider,

We recently reminded you of the approaching deadline for all health care providers to adopt a National Provider Identifier (NPI). Physicians Plus wants to begin collecting NPI numbers once they are assigned to the providers of your clinic.

Please complete the enclosed form and send it to the address listed on the form. You can also download an electronic version of the form (visit [www.HealthyChoicesBigRewards.com/providers](http://www.HealthyChoicesBigRewards.com/providers) and click "Regulatory Updates"), complete and e-mail it to us. The form allows you to enter the NPI assignments for multiple providers.

Remember, as of May 23, 2007, the NPI will be the only health care provider identifier usable in standard transactions by covered entities. Physicians Plus will require NPIs for all paper and electronic claim submissions from participating providers. We urge you to apply for your NPI well in advance of the compliance deadline. NPI application is free, only required once and NPIs are permanently assigned.

Apply for your NPI by:

- Completing and submitting an application online at: <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>.
- Printing an application from [www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov) and mailing it to the address provided, or by calling (800) 465-3203 to request a paper application.

Physicians Plus will notify you when to begin using the NPI on claim forms. Until then, we will continue to process claims with the Physicians Plus provider ID number. Claims received with just the NPI will be rejected. After we start accepting NPIs, there will be a four to six month transition period during which an NPI or Physicians Plus provider ID number will work.

Thank you for consistently providing our members with excellent care. For more information on NPI, please visit [www.HealthyChoicesBigRewards.com/providers](http://www.HealthyChoicesBigRewards.com/providers) and click "Regulatory Updates," or check the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services at [www.cms.hhs.gov/HIPAAGenInfo](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HIPAAGenInfo).

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your Provider Network Management Liaison for assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Traci Schaefer".

Traci Schaefer  
Senior Provider Network Management Liaison