

Bulletin



March 6, 2012

Important notice – Blue Cross, Blue Plus and BlueLink TPA prepare to move to HIPAA version 5010 only

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, Blue Plus, and BlueLink TPA (Blue Cross) previously advised you that we could accept HIPAA version 5010. We plan to move to accepting *only* HIPAA version 5010 starting in mid-March. This change could occur as early as March 17, 2012. We strongly recommend that you complete the implementation of your 5010 capabilities by that time.

If you will still be sending 4010 HIPAA transactions after mid-March, you will need to determine how your 4010 HIPAA transactions will be submitted as 5010 HIPAA transactions to Blue Cross. There are options available for up-convert (4010 to 5010) that Availity and some other clearinghouses are providing to submitters. Please contact your clearinghouse or software vendor for options available to you. Be aware that claims converted from 4010 to 5010 have a risk of rejection, and correction is not the responsibility of Blue Cross.

An example of a converted 4010 to 5010 rejection is the use of P.O. Box or lockbox in Billing Provider Address. In the HIPAA 4010, a P.O. Box or lockbox is an acceptable Billing Provider Address. In HIPAA 5010, the use of P.O. Box or lockbox in Billing Provider Address is not allowed. If the HIPAA 4010 claim comes in with a P.O. Box or lockbox in Billing Provider Address, the claim will be rejected once converted to 5010, as it does not meet the HIPAA 5010 compliance rules.

Questions?

Questions regarding possible options to up-convert (4010 to 5010) should be directed to your clearinghouse or software vendor. If you have other questions regarding this bulletin, please contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or **1-800-262-0820**.