

Good Morning-

Thank you to those who attended the EPO Select 20 presentation with Susan Savas. If you were unable to attend and want more information please see Jaime Keener, he has extra handouts. As discussed, Susan Savas provided follow-up to several questions raised, please see below. In addition, I'm adding the health care contribution rates and links to Empire, as promised. If you are interested in the new plan, please make an appointment with Melissa Hawley as soon as possible, her phone extension is x2259. The deadline for applications to be processed is January 6th, for a February 1st enrollment.

As Always don't hesitate to call with questions.

Norah Merritt

Listed below are the follow up items that we discussed.

Acupuncture coverage – the benefit is provided under the ‘surgical’ category of coverage. Therefore, on the benefit summary provided by Empire, you’ll look for ‘surgery’ under the **Home/Office Outpatient Care** section. There is no visit limit on the benefit, and the member copayment is \$0. The stipulation for coverage is that it must be medically necessary and provided by a licensed medical professional.

Diabetic foot care – the benefit is provided under the ‘medical’ category of coverage. There is no limit to the number of visits a member can have, and services are subject to the office visit copayment, \$20. Because routine foot care is an exclusion, it is important for members to know that coverage is provided when a specific medical condition is present which necessitates the care. Diabetes would certainly fit that requirement.

Contact lenses – the benefit is provided under the ‘routine vision’ category through Davis Vision, as discussed. Both *standard daily wear* and *disposable lenses* are covered subject to a \$10 copayment. Members are permitted to obtain two standard lenses – this means (as provided by Empire). . .

I. Contact Lenses

Covered Individuals selecting plan contact lenses in lieu of eyeglasses will receive an assessment fitting and the following materials under the Contact Lenses Formulary. This formulary augments the \$75 elective contact lens allowance. Vendor will make the Contact Lenses Formulary available to Covered Individuals upon request.

- Two standard lenses; OR
- Two boxes of planned replacement lenses; OR
- Four boxes of disposable lenses.

Health care contribution rates for SSA members

The rates (for SSA only) are as follows from 02/01/2017 – 06/30/2017
Monthly rates (divide by 2 for a per paycheck rate)

Plan	Family	Individual
Alt PPO	\$312.65	\$65.43 or \$74.77 *
EPO Select 20	\$84.83	\$0

*Individual Alt PPO rates are 7% or 8% of the premium depending on the date you were hired.

Additional Information

BENEFITS BOOKLETS:

Booklets will be available at the presentation and can also be obtained by calling Melissa Hawley in the Benefits Department 845-486-4800 x2259.

Please call Melissa Hawley to schedule an appointment or ask questions. 845-486-4800

EPO SELECT 20

http://dehic.dcboces.org/sites/default/files/980925_WP_EPO_Select20_no_DP_08_2014_Davis_Vis_Rev7%281%29.pdf

FIND A PARTICIPATING DOCTOR

Enclosed is a copy of the ‘tutorial’ from Empire regarding their website and how to locate a provider on <https://www.empireblue.com/>

PRESCRIPTION DRUG FORMULARY

The link to Empire’s website where members can access the formulary and determine where their prescription drugs fall within the list (i.e., which tier the drug is listed under). Please keep in mind that the formulary can change every few months as drugs come on the market, or are moved to a different tier (e.g., moved from tier 2 to tier 1). Therefore it is important for members to check the website from time to time. Once you access the link, scroll to where it states “National Drug Lists”, and then select “National Drug List (Searchable)”. The name of the drug in question can be typed in the open box, or you can search by therapeutic class.

<https://www11.empireblue.com/pharmacyinformation/>

ENROLLMENT FORM

[http://www.dcbooces.org/sites/default/files/dcbooces/DEHIC %28Empire BSBS Alt PPO%29 Enrollment Change form.pdf](http://www.dcbooces.org/sites/default/files/dcbooces/DEHIC_%28Empire_BSBS_Alt_PPO%29_Enrollment_Change_form.pdf)

Please don't hesitate to call with questions

Norah Merritt

Office of Human Resources

845-486-4800 x2278

Or

Jaime Keener

President, SSA

845-891-3618