

# Effective January 1: NYC retiree plan switches to Medicare Advantage Plus

 [pages.azblue.com/Jan-1-Change-to-City-of-New-York-retiree-plan---OCT-2021.html](https://pages.azblue.com/Jan-1-Change-to-City-of-New-York-retiree-plan---OCT-2021.html)



Some of you may be servicing City of New York retirees who live or travel in Arizona. Currently, they have a group plan (Traditional Medicare with Senior Care Medicare Supplement) with the member ID prefix **NYC**. Starting January 1, 2022, their plan will become a Medicare Advantage PPO plan with the prefix **N6Y**. The plan is offered through the [NYC Retiree Health Alliance](#), a partnership between Empire BlueCross BlueShield and EmblemHealth.

[Sign in – Secure Provider Portal](#) 

You may receive calls from NYC retirees asking if you are in-network for their [2022 “NYC Medicare Advantage Plus” PPO plan](#). Here’s how it works.

## Medicare Advantage PPO network sharing applies

Most of you are familiar with the BlueCard<sup>®</sup> program, which makes it possible for members of a Blue Cross<sup>®</sup> Blue Shield<sup>®</sup> (BCBS) Plan to access their PPO healthcare benefits while traveling or living outside of their plan’s service area. The program links participating healthcare providers in BCBS Plans across the U.S. and in many countries worldwide. There is a similar program for individuals with Medicare Advantage (MA) PPO plans. Because Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona (BCBSAZ) offers MA PPO (BlueJourney) benefit plans, we participate in the national BCBS MA PPO network-sharing program.

## Claim filing and reimbursement methodology to NYC MA PPO members

Starting January 1, all claims for NYC MA PPO plan members should be submitted directly to BCBSAZ—regardless of whether you’re contracted for the BlueJourney PPO network.

- If you're participating in the BCBSAZ BlueJourney PPO network, you will be reimbursed at your MA PPO contract rate for services rendered to NYC MA PPO members.
- Providers who don't participate in the BlueJourney PPO network will be reimbursed according to the Original Medicare fee schedule.

## How to recognize NYC and other out-of-area MA PPO members

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NYC and other out-of-area members with BCBS MA PPO plans will have a suitcase logo on their BCBS member ID card. The MA in the suitcase indicates that the member is covered under the MA PPO network-sharing program. The logo looks like this:

Please ensure that your staff (including the billing team and clearinghouse) receives this information. For more information, see the [NYC fact sheet](#) or our [MA PPO Network Sharing Provider FAQs](#). If you have questions, contact your [provider liaison](#) or call Provider Partnerships at 602-864-4231 or 1-800-232-2345, ext. 4231.



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The MA PPO suitcase logo is a registered service mark of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, an association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans.

Empire BlueCross BlueShield (Empire), an Anthem company, is the trade name of Empire HealthChoice Assurance, Inc., an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

EmblemHealth is a separate, independent health and wellness company that provides insurance plans, primary and specialty care, and wellness solutions to people in the New York tri-state area.

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Our members can take a digital ID card with them wherever they go with the MyBlue AZ<sup>SM</sup> mobile app.

