

# Tuesday

# Transition Update

## June 27, 2006

A newsletter by and for the employees of Clinch Valley Medical Center

### On schedule

Everything appears to be on schedule for our transition to LifePoint at the end of the day Friday, June 30. On the LifePoint corporate front, a news release Monday announced that William F. Carpenter III has been named president and CEO of LifePoint, effective immediately. This leadership change will not affect our sale. Carpenter was elevated from executive vice president, replacing the retiring Kenneth C. Donahey. The new CEO has been with LifePoint since its inception in 1999.

### LifePoint benefits

So far, most of the information we've received about benefits has been from the HCA side – specifically, what happens to your old benefits starting July 1. If you have specific questions about your LifePoint benefits, the answers should appear in the booklets and pamphlets you received during the March benefit meetings held with the LifePoint representative. It may be a good idea to dig those books out and refresh your memory on what your benefits do and do not cover, when pre-authorization is required, etc. If you didn't receive these printed materials, stop by Human Resources to request your own copies.

### Enrollment alert

We're in the open enrollment window for LifePoint benefits: Now through Friday, June 30. This is a passive enrollment: If you originally enrolled for LifePoint benefits in March and want all your choices to remain the same, do nothing. The benefit choices you made in March will be applied on July 1, 2006, unless you change them. If you'd like to make changes (for example, increase the amount withheld for your Flexible Spending Account, or add a life insurance policy for your spouse) you must do it by Friday. Enroll online at [www.eease.com/login](http://www.eease.com/login) or call 1-877-553-5569 (7:30 am - 6 pm). Your password is the first four letters of your last name and last four digits of your social security number.

However, we've discovered that *beneficiary selections apparently do not carry over* from your March elections. It's a good idea to call or log on to the LifePoint benefits website to make sure your intended beneficiaries appear, and that the percent you want to go to each beneficiary is also indicated. For example, a married employee with dependent children found that his spouse and children appeared under the beneficiary information, but were not "selected." Another employee with adult children who were originally included as beneficiaries found that her spouse appeared under the beneficiary information on file, though was not "selected," and that no information at all appeared about her other intended beneficiaries. This information *does not* have to be corrected by June 30, but you must do it soon if you want your intended beneficiaries to be recognized in the case of your death.

### Rx alert

The Medical Plaza Pharmacy staff advises you to refill your prescriptions by June 30, regardless of which pharmacy you use. While health insurance benefits typically are available immediately, traditionally there is a lag time before prescription benefits register in the system. Although they can't say with certainty that this *will* happen, there is a strong possibility that your benefits will not be recognized on July 1. That means you must be prepared to pay the full price of your prescription medication, then file a claim to be reimbursed. Yes, you'll have prescription coverage starting July 1, but that coverage may not be entered in the insurer's system for up to two weeks! So if at all possible, refill your prescriptions before June 30. If you must get a prescription filled during the first two weeks of July, be prepared to pay full price and to file a claim to get reimbursed. Again, this may not be necessary, but better to be prepared.

All the paperwork is in place so, *as far as we know*, the Medical Plaza Pharmacy next week will be able to offer mail order pricing when filling prescriptions for maintenance drugs – which will save you money. Ask your doctor to write your prescription for a three-month supply (90 to 100 days) of your maintenance drug and you will pay the same co-pay as you would for two months' worth of the drug. For example, if your cholesterol medicine has a \$35 co-pay, you would pay \$70 for a 90-day supply versus \$105 for three 30-day supplies – a savings of \$35. This is the same benefit currently only available when using a mail order pharmacy. It applies only to regularly-prescribed "maintenance" drugs such as insulin, blood pressure, statins, hormone replacement, etc. The pharmacy *must* have a prescription written for 90 to 100 days,

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