

Office of Group Benefits P.O. Box 44036 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4036

Important Information Regarding Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment

The Office of Group Benefits is pleased to announce that our mental health/substance abuse benefits will be administered by United Behavioral Health beginning September 1, 2003. UBH has extensive experience in providing assistance to people seeking help for substance abuse and other behavioral health issues.

Starting September 1, 2003, OGB PPO and EPO members will enjoy an out-of-network behavioral health benefit that will allow members to see the MHSA providers of their choice, even if the provider is not in the United Behavioral Health network. Reimbursement for out-of-network visits will be 70 percent of the amount payable to participating network providers. MCO members have no out-of-network benefits.

A transition plan allows any member who is now seeing a non-United Behavioral network provider to continue with that provider under certain circumstances and limitations. Transition benefits are paid on the same basis as in-network treatment. The transition plan applies to EPO, PPO, and MCO members.

The toll free mental health and substance abuse number for PPO, EPO, and MCO members is 866-492-7143. Providers who wish to join the UBH network can contact UBH using the same number.

Members with web access can link to UBH's website through the Office of Group Benefits website at <u>www.groupbenefits.org</u>.