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# MEDICAID MANAGED CARE MONTHLY

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/bmhc/index.stm>

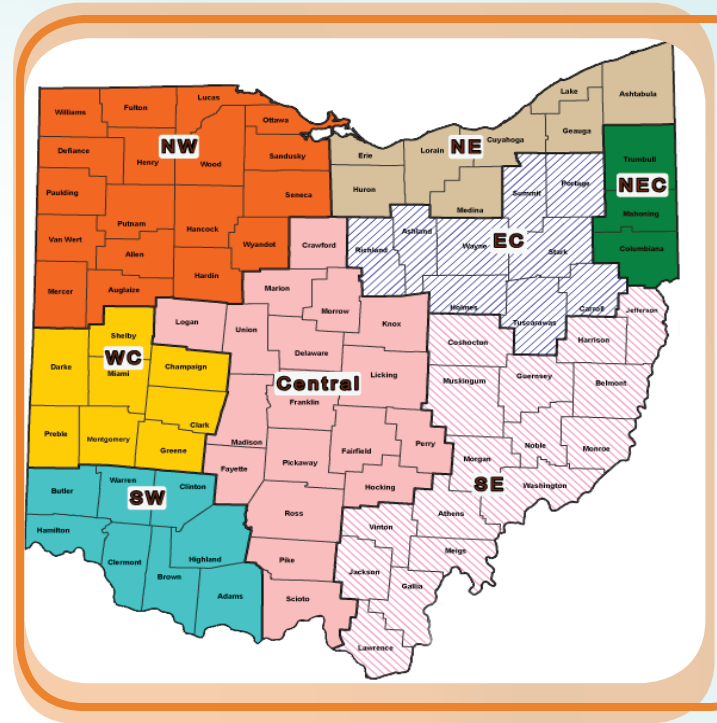
## ANTHEM WILL NO LONGER SERVE CFC CONSUMERS IN NW, CENTRAL, AND NE REGIONS

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Partnership Plan (Anthem) has notified the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) that as of March 31, 2008 it will terminate its provider agreement with Ohio Medicaid to serve Covered Families and Children (CFC) managed care consumers. This change will affect more than 145,000 CFC consumers including: 19,506 members in the Northwest region, 39,262 members in the Central region, and 86,919 members in the Northeast region. Please see the map to the right for affected regions. Anthem will continue serving current members through March, 31 2008.

CFC consumers affected by this change will be asked to choose one of the two remaining managed care plans (MCPs) in their region. In an effort to provide a smooth transition of Anthem members to new health plans, ODJFS will be sending notices to all affected consumers with information about how to choose a new MCP in their region.

Members who do not actively choose an alternate MCP will be automatically reassigned to a plan which best overlaps with their primary care history. If a consumer is dissatisfied with their auto-assignment to a new MCP, they may change plans within 90 days. Consumers may change plans or get more information by contacting the Ohio Medicaid Managed Care Enrollment Center at 1-800-605-3040 / TDD 1-800-292-3572. While the transition schedule is ambitious, ODJFS is confident that all affected Anthem members will be successfully transitioned to other health plans by April 1, 2008.

This contracting change will not affect the Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) consumers enrolled with Anthem.



## MOLINA HEALTHCARE INITIATES PHARMACY MANAGEMENT PILOT PROGRAM

Molina Healthcare has started a year long pilot project targeting about 200 consumers who each take at least five drugs for chronic illnesses such as asthma, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and hypertension. The project pays pharmacists to form partnerships with physician practices to analyze patient's medications, monitor their diagnostic levels and educate them about how to treat their illnesses. In some cases participating consumers were taking nine to 20 pills per day, many prescribed by multiple physicians. Molina reports that this program has already had a positive impact on safety and quality of care.

## HOSPITAL USE DECLINES AMONG INFANTS IN MANAGED CARE

ODJFS researchers have found that from CY 2005 to 2007, hospital utilization decreased greatly among infants enrolled in Medicaid managed care plans. The number of ER visits and inpatient hospital admissions were compared for the period 2005 to 2007 for this population. In 2007 infants enrolled in MCPs made 28.7 percent fewer visits to hospital emergency rooms and were admitted for inpatient hospital stays 54.1 percent less often than in 2005. This is a positive health care quality indicator that demonstrates the added value of managing care for Ohio Medicaid consumers.