# \*\*\*\*\*ALERT\*\*\*\*

# POTENTIAL HOSPITALS TERMINATION WITH ANTHEM BLUE CROSS FOR MEDI-CAL

#### **OVERVIEW**

Southern California Hospitals at Culver City, Hollywood and Van Nuys, and Los Angeles and Norwalk Community Hospitals (collectively "SCHS/Alta Hospitals" or "Hospitals") issued notices of their intention not to renew their Medi-Cal Hospital Services Agreements with Anthem Blue Cross under the current terms and conditions. It was the intention of the Hospitals' for the parties to engage in contract negotiations that would result in an arrangement beneficial to both organizations, which would include reasonable reimbursement to the Hospitals for their services. Unfortunately, to date, the parties have not reached an agreement. As such, the Hospitals' contracts with Anthem Blue Cross could **potentially** terminate effective Feb. 28, 2022. Both parties are continuing to negotiate in good faith.

## **HOW PATIENTS COULD BE AFFECTED**

Q: Does this impact all Anthem members?

A: The termination could affect most Anthem Blue Cross <u>Medi-Cal</u> members who receive care at SCHS/Alta Hospitals. Medicare Advantage HMO and Commercial members <u>will not</u> be affected by this potential termination.

Q: What if Anthem patients have continuity of care/transition Assistance service needs?

**A:** Anthem patients that are in the middle of care or have continuity of care needs may be able to continue receiving their care at Hospitals at the same in-network benefit level.

Patients wishing to request continuity of care should contact their new participating medical group or PCP. If an Anthem Blue Cross member began a course of treatment with any SCHS/Alta Hospital before the Feb. 28, 2022, transitional period end for certain conditions, he or she may be eligible to receive continuity of care, please contact Anthem for additional information if needed.

Q: What about members who need emergency medical care from a SCHS/Alta Hospital following the contract termination date?

**A:** This potential termination will not impact a member's ability to obtain emergency medical services at the Hospitals. Emergency services do not require pre-authorization, regardless of where they are delivered.

### **HOW PHYSICIANS COULD BE AFFECTED**

Q: Does this affect SCHS/Alta Hospitals affiliated physicians' contract status with Anthem?

**A:** This is a Hospital-only potential termination. Physician contracts with Anthem are not included in this negotiation.

Q: Do physicians need to do anything at this point?

**A:** Anthem has sent notice to physicians regarding the potential hospital termination and have suggested the physicians obtain hospital privileges at other hospitals. We recognize this is not an easy or inexpensive process for physicians and are doing everything we can to secure a fair and sustainable agreement to avoid disruption to physicians' practices and re-scheduling of procedures, which would cause significant inconvenience to physicians and their patients.