



For Immediate Release

October 21, 2013

**COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE MIKE CHANEY
ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING BLUE CROSS BLUE
SHIELD OF MISSISSIPPI AND HMA**

“I have informed the Governor, Attorney General, Lt. Governor and Speaker of the House of the following action by BCBS.

I am very pleased that Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi moved forward today October 21, 2013 to recognize four HMA hospitals for network benefits. Three of the HMA hospitals are located in Amory, Batesville and Clarksdale, rural areas of the state. The fourth, Women’s Hospital in Flowood provides specialty medical service for women.

I would emphasize that the hospitals were not put back into the network of BCBS, but will be recognized as network providers and BCBS will provide in-network rates to its members that receive medical service at these hospitals.

Even with this action by BCBS, my office will continue to conduct an in-depth statewide network adequacy review to ensure compliance with market standards and statutory provisions.”