

September 14, 2007

## Optima Family Care/FAMIS Update

### **NO REFERRALS NEEDED FOR PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2007**

Dear Participating Optima Family Care/FAMIS Provider,

Optima Health is pleased to announce exciting news for participating Optima Family Care (OFC)/FAMIS providers. As an expansion of the pilot project we implemented in the Northwest area of Virginia in August 2006, we are pleased to announce the statewide implementation of our **No Referral Required** program for Optima Family Care and FAMIS members. Effective for services rendered on or after October 1, 2007 the referral process will be discontinued for **all Optima Family Care/FAMIS members** throughout all service areas in Virginia.

Participating Optima Family Care/FAMIS primary care physicians will no longer be required to submit a referral for an OFC/FAMIS member to see a **participating** specialist. Non-emergent services from a non-participating provider will require authorization from Optima. Because this new program will be implemented for all OFC and FAMIS members, member identification cards will not be reissued. As new ID cards are ordered for new members or requested by existing members, their new card will read "No Referral Required" in the upper right corner. All versions of the card are valid.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact your Optima Network Educator or contact our Provider Relations Team at 1-800-229-8822 or 757-552-7474.

Thank you for your continued participation and support of OFC and FAMIS members.

Sincerely,

Megan Padden  
Vice-President of Government Programs

Sincerely,

Rachel Schneider  
Director, Network Management