



Hickok & Boardman
GROUP BENEFITS



CIGNA and Fletcher Allen Reach Agreement

Hickok & Boardman Group Benefits recently received the following from CIGNA HealthCare regarding the negotiations between CIGNA and Fletcher Allen and we are pleased to bring you this information. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

Fletcher Allen and CIGNA HealthCare announced today that they have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will allow individuals served by CIGNA HealthCare to continue to receive services at in-network rates from Fletcher Allen. Both organizations described this as a significant step that will extend their contractual relationship without interruption to patient care. The new contract will run from February 1, 2009 through January, 2011, replacing the current contract which would have expired at the end of this month.

"We are pleased that our organizations have successfully concluded our recent negotiations. We believe that with this contract, Fletcher Allen and CIGNA have been able to balance fair reimbursement to Fletcher Allen while controlling costs for individuals and their employers throughout the State," said Don Curry, president and general manager of CIGNA HealthCare of New England. "We look forward to working with Fletcher Allen to provide effective and affordable health care for Vermont residents."

"We have all worked diligently to reach this agreement," said Roger Deshaies, chief financial officer, Fletcher Allen. "Vermonters rely on us to provide efficient and effective trauma care as well as care for the most serious cases of heart disease, stroke and cancer. This contract will assure continuity of care for the many Vermont residents whose health care insurance is provided by CIGNA who receive their care at Fletcher Allen. As one of the state's largest employers, we are well aware of the cost of health insurance, and as a health care provider, we are doing everything we can to provide efficient high-quality care."

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