



Orthopedic Surgery & Sports Medicine

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To Our Patients with BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Insurance:

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee may have recently contacted you to inform you that Mid-Tennessee Bone & Joint Clinic will be leaving their networks P and S at the end of this year. The truth is we hope and expect to remain in these BlueCross networks as we negotiate with BlueCross regarding fees for our services.

First, we want you to know how much we regret that something like this should cause confusion and uncertainty for our patients. It's hard enough being sick; this added complication doesn't help anyone.

BlueCross has been paying MTBJ the same fees for nearly three years. As with any business or household, MTBJ is paying more for everything needed to provide the outstanding care we are known for. And while we diligently manage our expenses, our costs unavoidably rise from year to year. BlueCross' own data clearly demonstrate that MTBJ provides high quality, low cost orthopedic care to our patients; we're simply asking BlueCross to reasonably compensate us for that care.

It is interesting to see BlueCross premiums markedly increase from year to year; it is very likely they will continue to increase in the years ahead. It seems we are all paying more just to maintain a certain level of health insurance. At the same time, many are also incurring higher deductibles, meaning the *higher* premiums are actually buying *less* health insurance coverage.

If you have a minute, Mid-Tennessee Bone & Joint Clinic encourages you to contact BlueCross customer service at (800) 565-9140 and urge them to work with us toward a mutually beneficial agreement.

We'll keep you updated as we hopefully move toward a rapid resolution. Thank you so much for your support and we look forward to providing the best possible orthopedic care to you and your family for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Randall L. Davidson, M.D.
President