

**EXHIBIT A**

**CLAIM FORM FOR THE SETTLING BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD PLANS' SETTLEMENT FUND AND ELECTION OF CONTRIBUTION TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION**

You must read the Notice of Proposed Settlement and Claim Form Instructions before completing this Claim Form. The capitalized terms used in this Claim Form are defined in the Settlement Agreement. A Class Member may file only one Claim Form.

**SECTION A: CLAIMANT INFORMATION - ALL CLAIMANTS MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION (EITHER THROUGH A PHYSICIAN GROUP/ORGANIZATION OR INDIVIDUALLY, BUT NOT BOTH).**

**Check One:**

**Physician Group/Organization** Please indicate the number of Physicians on your list \_\_\_\_\_

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <i>Physician Group or Organization Name</i>             |              |
| <i>Name and Title of Employee/Representative Filing</i> | <i>Phone</i> |

**Physician Groups/Organizations must attach a list of Active Physicians for whom they are submitting claims, along with the information specified in the Claim Form Instructions enclosed with this mailing for each Active Physician for whom the Physician Group/Organization is submitting a Claim. This information should be set forth on the rider that is attached to this Claim Form, or, alternatively, on a form substantially similar to the one that is attached.**

**Individual Physician** Please indicate your Physician type (e.g., MD or DO) \_\_\_\_\_

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <i>Name of Physician</i>                                  |              |
| <i>Name of Representative (if Physician is Deceased)*</i> | <i>Phone</i> |

\*If you are the legal heir or representative of a deceased Class Member, you must attach documentation such as a death certificate or letters of administration for an estate to confirm your status. The Tax I.D. requested in Section E is that of the heir or estate.

**Mailing Address for Physician Group/Organization or Individual Claimant**

|  |              |            |   |
|--|--------------|------------|---|
| <i>Mailing Address (Street, PO Box, Suite or Office Number, as applicable)</i> |              |            |   |
| <i>City</i>  | <i>State</i> | <i>Zip</i> | <i>Blue Cross/Blue Shield Provider Number (if applicable)</i> |

Individual Claimants: please check the appropriate box in SECTION B or SECTION C to indicate the category of which you are a member.

**SECTION B: I AM A CLASS MEMBER WHO HAS RETIRED FROM THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE OR HAS BECOME INACTIVE SUBSEQUENT TO May 22, 1999, OR I AM THE LEGAL HEIR OR REPRESENTATIVE OF A DECEASED CLASS MEMBER.**

By checking the box to the left, I certify that I have reviewed the enclosed Notice of Proposed Settlement and Claim Form Instructions and that I am either a Class Member (as described in the enclosed Notice of Proposed Settlement and defined in the Settlement Agreement) who has retired from the practice of medicine or become inactive subsequent to May 22, 1999 (a "Retired Physician"), or that I am the legal heir or representative of a deceased Class Member.

**SECTION C: I AM A CLASS MEMBER AND AN ACTIVE PHYSICIAN.**

By checking the box to the left, I certify that I have reviewed the enclosed Notice of Proposed Settlement and Claim Form Instructions and that I am a Class Member (as described in the enclosed Notice of Proposed Settlement and defined in the Settlement Agreement) and that I am an Active Physician.

**ACTIVE PHYSICIANS:** Individual Physicians must check ONLY ONE of the boxes below to designate the range of Gross Receipts that are the basis of this claim. **Physician Groups and Physician Organizations** must attach a list that designates the range of Gross Receipts for each Active Physician for whom you are filing this claim (by using the attached rider, or, alternatively a form that is substantially similar to the one that is attached) **Physician Groups and Physician Organizations do not check any boxes below.**

- I.  By checking this box, I certify that I received no payments from the settling Blue Plans, or that my Gross Receipts for providing Covered Services to the settling Blue Plans' Plan Members during the three calendar year period of 2004, 2005, and 2006 were less than \$ 5,000.
- II.  By checking this box, I certify that my Gross Receipts for providing Covered Services to the settling Blue Plans' Plan Members during the three calendar year period of 2004, 2005, and 2006 were at least \$ 5,000 but less than \$ 50,000.
- III.  By checking this box, I certify that my Gross Receipts for providing Covered Services to the settling Blue Plans' Plan Members during the three calendar year period of 2004, 2005, and 2006 were \$ 50,000 or greater.
- IV.  By checking this box, I certify that my Gross Receipts for providing Covered Services to the settling Blue Plans' Plan Members during another consecutive three - year period from January 1, 1997 through December 31, 2006 were in the amount shown in the box below and are supported by the enclosed documents evidencing such receipts.

**If you only received payments from a Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield plan that is NOT listed in the Notice, please check Box I above.**

**If you checked Boxes I, II or III in Section C, please move to Section D.**

**If you checked Box IV in Section C,** please indicate in the table below the dates of the consecutive three - year period that are the basis of your claim and check the appropriate box to indicate for this three-year period the range of Gross Receipts you received for providing Covered Services to the settling Blue Plans' Plan Members. You must attach your proof or receipts and print a description of the proof you attached in the box below.

|                                       |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
|                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> under \$5,000    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 - \$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 or over |
|                                       | <i>Description of the Proof Attached.</i> |   |   |
| <i>Dates of the Three-Year Period</i> |   |   |   |

**SECTION D: INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYMENT - ALL CLAIMANTS MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION. CHECK ONE:**

- By checking this box, I am directing the Settlement Administrator to remit payment of my pro rata portion of the Settlement Fund for an eligible claim directly to me (i.e., to the Class Member completing this claim, which may be an individual Physician or Physician Group or Physician Organization).
- By checking this box, I am directing the Settlement Administrator to donate my pro rata portion of the Settlement Fund for an eligible claim to the charitable organization that I have selected from the list on page 3 of the Claim Form Instructions (select only one charitable organization).

**CLEARLY print the number preceding the charitable organization you are selecting from the list attached to the Claim Form Instructions in the box to the right.**

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Charitable Organization Number</i> |
|---------------------------------------|

**SECTION E: SUBSTITUTE W-9 - ALL CLAIMANTS MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION.**

On the appropriate line, enter the Social Security Number or Employer Identification Number of the claimant whose name will appear on any check and related Form-1099. For individuals, this is your Social Security Number (SSN). For Physician Groups and Physician Organizations, this is your Employer Identification Number (EIN).

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number (SSN)

OR

\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_  
Employer Identification Number (EIN)

By signing this Claim Form, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form above is the correct Social Security Number or Employer Identification Number for this claimant; and
2. The claimant is not subject to backup withholding because the claimant: (a) is exempt from backup withholding, or (b) has not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that the claimant is subject to backup withholding as a result of failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified the claimant that the claimant is no longer subject to backup withholding.

NOTE: Backup withholding is extra tax withholding that occurs when a taxpayer has underreported interest or dividends in a previous year. The IRS notifies taxpayers who are subject to backup withholding. If you (the claimant) have been notified by the IRS that you are subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return, you must cross out item 2 above by placing a line through the section. The IRS does not require your consent to any provision of this document other than the certifications in Section E required to avoid backup withholding.

**SECTION F: CERTIFICATION - ALL CLAIMANTS MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION.**

I do declare and certify, under penalties of perjury, as follows:

- I am a Class Member, a legal heir or representative of a deceased Class Member, or an authorized representative of the Physician Group or Physician Organization identified above;
- I am not submitting a claim on behalf of any Class Members who have submitted a request to Opt-Out of the Class and Settlement;
- I am not submitting a claim on behalf of any Active Physicians who are, on their own behalf, submitting separate claims based on the same Covered Services;
- **I am not submitting a claim on behalf of any Active Physicians against whom a Blue Plan has obtained a final finding of fraud and/or abuse from a judicial, arbitral, or administrative proceeding and a corresponding final judgment for damages arising from a claim (or claims) for payment during the same time period for which the claim is asserted;** and

- All of the statements and information provided in this Claim Form are true, correct and complete, to the best of my knowledge.
- The IRS does not require your consent to any provision of this document other than the certifications in Section E required to avoid backup withholding.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Claims should be sent to the Settlement Administrator at:**

**[ADDRESS]**

**YOU MUST COMPLETE AND SIGN THIS CLAIM FORM, AND THE ENVELOPE RETURNING YOUR CLAIM FORM MUST BE MAILED TO THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR WITH A POSTMARK DATE *NO LATER THAN* [90 DAYS AFTER NOTICE DATE].**

**IF YOUR SIGNED CLAIM FORM IS NOT MAILED TO THE SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR BY THIS DEADLINE, YOU WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE WAIVED YOUR RIGHT TO RECEIVE ANY PAYMENT FROM THE SETTLEMENT FUND.**

**WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND SENDING YOUR CLAIM FORM VIA REGISTERED OR CERTIFIED MAIL AND RETAINING YOUR RECEIPT AND A COPY OF YOUR CLAIM FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.**

**If you have any questions, please call the Settlement Administrator at [PHONE]**

