

May, 2010

Welcome to the May issue of *PlusNotes for Employers*. Use it to make your Physicians Plus health plan work for you! This month's issue includes:

- Understanding Health Care Reform
- Meriter Pediatric Center Grand Opening
- Aspirin Use to Prevent Heart Attacks and Strokes

And please, invite your employees to [subscribe to PlusNotes for Members](#)! If you prefer not to receive future issues, simply click the link at the bottom of this newsletter to unsubscribe.

Understanding Health Reform

After many, many months of debate and discussion, a health care reform bill was recently approved by the U.S. government. The bill is a massive piece of legislation that will affect all of us and will be implemented incrementally over the next several years.

We aren't experts yet, but we're learning details of the reform bill as quickly as possible, and we want to help you do the same. We've created a [dedicated section](#) of [pplusic.com](#) to act as an information clearinghouse of sorts for what we know about the reform bill. You'll find summary information that may apply to you and your employees, along with many helpful links to external agencies with more detailed supporting information. We'll update as we find out more, so check back often!

Meriter Pediatric Center Grand Opening

Meriter Hospital's new [Pediatric Center](#) will open on Tuesday, May 18. This family-friendly facility will provide pediatric-trained staff to care for children requiring emergency care, observation or hospitalization. You and your employees are invited to the grand opening celebration of the Pediatric Center on Wednesday, May 5. The celebration will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony and program beginning at 8:30 a.m., followed by tours from 9-11 a.m. Attendees should gather in the Emergency Services waiting area.

Aspirin Use to Prevent Heart Attacks and Strokes

This spring, Physicians Plus is conducting an Aspirin-Use Initiative to educate our members at-risk for various cardiovascular diseases. When taken regularly, aspirin can be an easy and inexpensive way to help reduce the risk of heart attack and stroke.

The initiative will include communications to both employer groups and members — featuring fact sheets for [men](#) and [women](#) — with goals of increasing the number of at-risk members taking aspirin if recommended by their provider and increasing the number of members who discuss aspirin use with their doctors. If you have questions about our Aspirin-Use Initiative or how it can help your employees, please contact Physicians Plus at (608) 260-7805.

Tell Us What You Think

Physicians Plus wants to know what you think! Send us your feedback, suggestions, and ideas for improvement. All submissions are reviewed, so please let us [know](#).