



The following information was received from
Anthem on Friday, March 30th

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**The Health Alliance and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
Extend Agreement through March 2010**

Cincinnati, Ohio – March 30, 2007 – Officials from the Health Alliance and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Ohio have reached an agreement that will give Anthem members access to Health Alliance hospitals, surgery centers and physicians through March 31, 2010. The extended agreement includes all Anthem products in which the Health Alliance currently participates. Details of the contract will be finalized over the coming weeks.

“Anthem and the Health Alliance are working together to provide access to quality health care, which benefits everyone in the community,” said Chuck Slater, President, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Ohio. “We thank our many employer customers and members for their patience and understanding during this process.”

The Health Alliance is the Tristate’s largest health system with seven hospitals and more than 2,500 primary care physicians and specialists located throughout Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. Anthem serves nearly 500,000 members in the area with health benefits plans for employer groups and individuals.

Terry Frech, Anthem's Director for Network Management, is pleased that Anthem was able to extend the Health Alliance agreement, as well as agreements with St. Elizabeth Medical Center, through June 30, 2011, and TriHealth, through December 31, 2010. "Anthem members will continue to have access to all greater Cincinnati and northern Kentucky area providers. We work very hard to be able to offer affordable, quality health care to our customers."

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Ohio is a subsidiary of WellPoint, Inc. WellPoint's mission is to improve the lives of the people it serves and the health of its communities. WellPoint, Inc. is the largest health benefits company in terms of commercial membership in the United States. Through its access to nationwide networks, the company delivers a number of leading health benefit solutions through a broad portfolio of integrated health care plans and related services, along with a wide range of specialty products such as life and disability insurance benefits, pharmacy benefit management, dental, vision, behavioral health benefit services, as well as long term care insurance and flexible spending accounts. Headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, WellPoint is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association and serves its members as the Blue Cross licensee for California; the Blue Cross and Blue Shield licensee for Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri (excluding 30 counties in the Kansas City area), Nevada, New Hampshire, New York (as Blue Cross Blue Shield in 10 New York City metropolitan and surrounding counties and as Blue Cross or Blue Cross Blue Shield in selected upstate counties only), Ohio, Virginia (excluding the Northern Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C.), Wisconsin; and through UniCare. Life and disability products are underwritten by Anthem Life Insurance Company, an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Additional information about WellPoint is available at www.wellpoint.com.