

# Endocrinology Associates of Montgomery, P.A.

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- Diabetes & Thyroid
- Cholesterol
- Osteoporosis
- Growth Assessment

**Bruce S. Trippe, M.D., F.A.C.E.**  
Board Certified Endocrinologist

Dear Blue Cross Patient,

The good news is that **I love being your doctor**, and I insist on the highest level of care and lab work for all my patients.

The bad news is that as of July 18, 2016, **I will no longer be a Blue Cross "in network" provider.** I will be considered an **"out of network"** provider.

It has become increasingly difficult to keep up with all the changes insurance carriers are making with regard to reimbursements for your visits, labs and diagnostic studies we perform for you. When you examine your health insurance plans, you will find that the “allowable reason for services” and “medications” change and terms like ‘non-par’, ‘non-allowed’, ‘not in-network’, ‘denied’, or ‘excluded’ are routinely found in the policy language. Can you imagine a doctor’s office having to look up every insurance card for every type of insurance company and plan type for each patient?

**As a Board Certified endocrinologist, I have selected sophisticated profiles to reveal your endocrine problems.** With these specific and sensitive labs, it has provided for you **the highest level of care. They are accepted by most specialists and insurance companies in this country. These tests have allowed me to accurately assess your condition and provide a more precise treatment plan than with just the basic tests.**

**Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama however will no longer honor these tests.**

**So what does this mean to you and what are your options?**

**OPTION #1.**

You are free to immediately **call Blue Cross, if you need more specific information regarding what physician or labs are considered in network. Be advised, that after July 18, 2016**

**I will no longer be in network status.** Upon written request, your records will be made available to you.

If at any time in the future you wish to return to our office for care, **the door will always be open in Option #2.**

**OPTION #2.**

You are more than welcome to continue as my patient. Because I will not be considered an "in network" provider, our office will not be filing any claims with Blue Cross on your behalf. This means that you would **pay us directly for your office visits and lab work. Enclosed you will find general fees associated with the more common visit types and tests. There will be a fee for service, due at the time of the visit.**

We will gladly provide you with a copy of your completed visit and a paid receipt so that you can mail it directly to Blue Cross for reimbursement. However, **they may only reimburse you what they deem as the "standard" rate, or not reimburse you at all.**

Your treatment would continue as normal, and your tests would continue with comparable labs. I have personally been visiting labs and selecting similar tests that are cost affordable to insurance and you, that will not sacrifice the best in care. By offering these options, we want to provide the least disruption to you.

I hope this answers all your questions, however, if you need more specific information regarding what physician or labs are considered in network, you will need to call and inquire with Blue Cross.

**I am honored by the trust you have placed in me, and I wish you the very best.**

Bruce S. Trippe, M.D., F.A.C.E.