



May 9, 2025

## Notice to Providers Regarding Payment for Massachusetts Group Insurance Commission Member Claims

Wellpoint provides health insurance to members of the Massachusetts Group Insurance Commission (GIC), the state agency that provides benefits to state and certain municipal employees, retirees, and their dependents. The GIC and Wellpoint would like to inform you about an important update regarding the GIC and its ability to pay its medical and behavioral health claims.

The GIC currently has a significant funding shortfall for the fiscal year that ends June 30, 2025. This is due to higher than projected medical and pharmacy claim expenditures. As a contingency plan and at the request of the GIC, Wellpoint will be pending payment of GIC member claims on a temporary basis from May 12, 2025 until it receives the additional funds or until July 1, 2025. The GIC is projected to run out of funds to pay claims by May 12, 2025 unless it receives additional funding. Note that the GIC's claims payment delay does NOT affect any other government programs (e.g. MassHealth or Medicare). The Governor has filed a supplemental budget requesting the necessary funds from the Legislature, and the GIC expects that the measure will pass. However, the GIC does not know how soon the legislature will pass the bill and when the GIC will receive the requested funds, which is why the GIC's health plans are being asked to pend payment of members' claims.

Any pended claims will be processed once the GIC receives funds (July 1, 2025 at the latest, when their new fiscal year starts). At that time the claims pend will be lifted, and payments will be distributed promptly.

There are no changes to the claims submission process for our providers and no other Wellpoint products are impacted. Please continue to submit claims to Wellpoint as you typically do. You will continue to receive payments for other Wellpoint claims. We are committed to managing any potential disruptions and will keep you updated on any further

actions related to this issue. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in continuing to provide care to our Wellpoint GIC members.

If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact Wellpoint Provider Services Department at 800-442-9300. A representative is available from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST Monday-Thursday, and 7:30a.m. to 5:00p.m. EST Friday. You may also wish to contact your local state legislator and encourage quick passage of the supplemental budget measure (H. 4003) – please visit <u>malegislature.gov</u> for more information on how to contact your legislator.