Walgreens is in the UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy network

In answer to recent member and customer questions, Walgreens is currently part of the 2011 UnitedHealthcare retail pharmacy network, and Walgreens is contracted to remain part of our 2012 retail pharmacy network regardless of whether or not the Express Scripts/Medco merger takes place.

Recently some of our members have received letters from Walgreens stating that Walgreens will no longer be a network pharmacy if they have Express Scripts as their PBM. Walgreens generated these letters for consumers who filled a prescription with an Express Scripts benefit card going back to January 1, 2011.

These could be members who had Express Scripts at the beginning of the year, or who have changed employers and are now with a UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy employer client.

The merger discussions have no bearing on our network
To be clear, Walgreens is currently part of the 2011 UnitedHealthcare retail pharmacy network. Walgreens is contracted to remain part of our 2012 retail pharmacy network regardless of whether or not the Express Scripts/Medco merger takes place.

Only we define our network
UnitedHealthcare determines which pharmacies are included in our network and our pharmacy benefit administrator Medco carries out that direction.

One-to-one outreach
Walgreens pharmacists will explain that Walgreens is in the UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy network if a member is confused about their current plan.

While we do not believe this is a widespread issue, we wanted you have the facts in order to communicate with your customers if they have questions.