



**August 24, 2005**

**LabOne Benefit Update**

In connection with the addition of this benefit effective May 1, 2005, we just received information on our first quarter of usage and the results are very encouraging. Through July, 2005, 278 of our Participants or their dependents have used LabOne for 834 tests with an estimated total savings of \$28,488. I believe we can reasonably project that at least \$8,000 of those savings were directly to the benefit of you the Participants due to avoided deductible or coinsurance amounts.

I have received reports from a very few of our Participants that their doctors will not participate by sending their samples to LabOne. In such cases the lab work is covered under the regular provisions of the plan, subject to the deductible and coinsurance. As a reminder, when you use LabOne the plan pays 100% of the cost of the lab work charges from LabOne. Even if your doctor will not collect the samples and send them, you may have a contracted collection site convenient to you that you could use. If you want to check on this, go to our [web site](#) where you can "Find a LabOne Collection Point."

I offer what I hope is a helpful tip based on recent personal experience. It may not be enough to tell your doctor's staff when you arrive for your appointment, or your doctor or your doctor's nurse that you want to have your work sent to LabOne. I did that. When I went to the office area where they draw the blood I was invited to sit down and roll up my sleeve. When I said to the technician, "This is supposed to go to LabOne.", she responded with "Oh. I'll have to get Mary to do this. I'm with XYZ Medical Center and we're not contracted with them, but Mary is." By the way, my doctor received the results the next day and the Plan paid the full cost of the lab work.

Remember that if you have any questions you can [email](#) them to this office for our response.

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