SECTION 5: BILLING AND REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES

of the Professional Provider Office Manual

5.29 NURSE PRACTITIONER AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SERVICES

This is a subsection of Section 5: Billing and Reimbursement Guidelines of the *Professional Provider Office Manual*. If Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana (Louisiana Blue) makes any procedural changes, in our ongoing efforts to improve our service to you, we will update the information in this subsection and notify our network providers. For complete *Professional Provider Office Manual* information, please refer to the other sections of this manual. Contact information for all manual sections is available in the Manual Reference Section.

For member eligibility, benefits or claims status information, we encourage you to use iLinkBlue (www.lablue.com/ilinkblue), our online self-service provider tool. Additional provider resources are available on our Provider page at www.lablue.com/providers.

This manual is provided for informational purposes only and is an extension of your Professional Provider Agreement. You should always directly verify member benefits prior to performing services. Every effort has been made to print accurate, current information. Errors or omissions, if any, are inadvertent. The Member Contract/Certificate contains information on benefits, limitations and exclusions, and managed care benefit requirements. It also may limit the number of days, visits or dollar amounts to be reimbursed.

As stated in your agreement: This manual is intended to set forth in detail our policies. Louisiana Blue retains the right to add to, delete from and otherwise modify the *Professional Provider Office Manual* as needed. This manual and other information and materials provided are proprietary and confidential and may constitute trade secrets.

NURSE PRACTITIONER AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SERVICES

Nurse practitioners and physician assistants are eligible to participate in our provider networks. The supervising physician must participate in the same networks as the nurse practitioner or physician assistant. Nurse practitioners and physician assistants who join our networks must complete the credentialing process.

Nurse practitioners and physician assistants must submit claims for their services using their individual National Provider Identifier (NPI). Nurse practitioners and physician assistants should use Modifier AS when billing for surgical assistant services. Modifier AS reimbursement will be 85% of the assistant surgeon allowable charge.

For nurse practitioners and physician assistants providing services under an urgent care center or emergency room physician number, Modifier SA should be appended to the services billed.