



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Alabama**

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Health Benefits Plan Summary of Material Modifications Effective January 1, 2008

Please note the following changes to your health benefits plan effective January 1, 2008. This information amends your benefit booklet concerning physician's preventive care services.

Routine Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Testing

One routine HPV test is covered every three calendar years for females age 30 and over at the same level as the routine Pap smear.

HPV testing provides evidence of certain cervical infections that are not identified in a routine Pap smear. It is more effective in identifying women in this age class who are at a higher risk of developing cervical cancer. Experts now recommend that women 30 and over (when risk of cervical cancer is highest) get the HPV test along with their Pap once every three years. Women age 30 and over who test negative for both the Pap smear and HPV test are at extremely low risk for developing cervical cancer in the next 3 – 5 years.