

## EXPLANATION OF PROVIDER DATA

**Name** – This is how the doctor tells Paramount he or she wants to be listed. This information is self-reported by the provider and updated upon notification. It is not verified by Paramount.

**Gender** – We list male or female from what the doctor tells us when he or she applies to Paramount. This information is self-reported by the physician and updated upon notification.

**Specialty** – This is the type of care that the doctor gives. This information is self-reported by the physician and updated upon verification of training within that specialty through the American Medical Association Master File, American Osteopathic Association Master File or respective training program. Plan verifies this information through factors which include, board certification, graduation from an accredited professional school; advanced professional training post-licensure (e.g., residency, fellowship); and professional experience. Verification is completed when the doctor applies to Paramount and if he or she tells us of a change in specialty.

**Hospital Affiliations** – This shows where the doctor is allowed to admit (send) and take care of patients (“has privileges”) within the Paramount network. This information is self-reported by the provider and updated upon notification.

**Group Affiliations** – If the doctor is part of a medical practice with other doctors, this is the group name. This information is self-reported by the provider and updated upon notification. Verification is completed upon notification by the provider.

**Board Certification** – Board certification indicates whether or not a physician has obtained certification by either The American Board of Medical Specialties member board or American Osteopathic Association. This information is obtained directly from the provider and verified directly with the American Board of Medical Specialties or American Osteopathic Association prior to inclusion of the data in this directory. Board certification is verified upon notification from the physician that they have become Board Certified, at least every three years or within 30 days of the certificate expiration date.

You can check this status yourself by going to [www.abms.org](http://www.abms.org) for Medical Doctors (MDs). To check the certification status of a Doctor of Osteopathy (DO) by going to [www.osteopathic.org](http://www.osteopathic.org) or calling the AOA Member Service Center at 1-800-621-1773, Option 1 in the menu.

**Accepting New Patients** – “Yes” means the doctor is making appointments with patients that he or she has not seen before. “Accepting Current Patients Only” means the doctor limits his or her practice to existing patients only. This information is self reported by the provider and updated upon notification. This information is verified, at a minimum, every three years.

**Language(s) in addition to English** – If the doctor can speak something other than English it is shown here. This information is self-reported by the provider and updated upon notification. This information is verified, at a minimum, every three years.

**Office Locations** – This list shows all the places where the doctor tells us she or he cares for patients. This information is self-reported by the provider and updated upon notification. This information is verified, at a minimum, every three years.

**Facility Name** – This is how the hospital, nursing home or other provider tells Paramount they want to be listed. This information is self-reported by the provider and updated upon notification. It is not verified by Paramount.

**Location** – This is the address where the hospital or facility can be found. This information is self-reported by the provider and updated upon notification. This information is verified, at a minimum, every three years.

**Accreditation/Certification** – If a hospital or other facility has been tested (surveyed) by and met the standards of a special review organization such as the Joint Commission (TJC, formerly JCAHO), it is given here. This information is self-reported by the provider and Paramount confirms that status directly with the accrediting agency before listing it in this directory. Accreditation is verified at least every three years.