

NMA forms The Nebraska Medical Association Insurance Group

Effective June 1, 2016, physicians, physician families and physician employees now have a new option when they need insurance coverage. The Nebraska Medical Association has partnered with 1st Insurance Group to create a new agency: The Nebraska Medical Association Insurance Group (NMAIG). The new company will provide services statewide.

With so many insurance agencies merging or closing recently, why would the NMA enter the insurance business? “We’ve been exploring the idea for quite a while,” said Dale Mahlman, executive vice president of the NMA. “A number of other medical societies around the country have agency operations. It’s a way to bring unique products that are competitively priced to our members. Another reason is to ensure that the products endorsed by the NMA are the best available.”

NMAIG will be located in Omaha and will be staffed by Scott Morris and Derek Briscoe who have many years of experience working with physicians. Morris has 25 years of employee benefits experience and currently manages the NMA insurance program with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska. Briscoe, who has 20 years of insurance experience, will manage the professional liability and business insurance. “I’m excited about the opportunity. As far as I know, there is no other insurance agency in the state whose business is to exclusively serve the needs of physician,” said Morris. “Consumers in Nebraska are fortunate to have many good agencies across the state, but we will serve a need dedicated to the physician market.”

NMAIG will sell all insurance products including but not limited to:

- Professional liability insurance through NMA’s endorsed carrier COPIC
- Business insurance
- Executive benefits
- Individual and key person life and health products
- Employee benefits
 - Health
 - Dental
 - Vision
 - Life
 - Disability
 - Cancer
 - Critical illness
 - Accident
- Retirement plans
- Wellness programs
- Personal lines
 - Homeowners insurance
 - Auto
 - Umbrella

“We will continue to work closely with our carrier partners to grow. That includes COPIC for professional liability, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska for medical insurance, Lincoln Financial for life and disability and Ameritas for dental. All these companies have a great track record of working with physicians within our state. We are looking to grow that list through exclusive product endorsements,” said Mahlman.

Briscoe added, “We look forward to the opportunity to discuss NMAIG offerings with physicians in Nebraska. Given recent carrier profitability nationwide, most notably in medical professional liability, pricing is at historic lows. As a result, our aim is to provide additional services and resources, including early intervention and resolution programs which will become more prevalent in the future. We believe that COPIC deploys these services and solutions better than anyone in the market place.”

“COPIC values the strong relationships we have with the folks at the NMA and NMAIG and we continue to work closely with them on meeting the needs of their members, legislative efforts, and other initiatives that improve health care in Nebraska. Since our expansion into Nebraska in 2002,” stated Gerry Lewis-Jenkins, COO at COPIC, NMA’s endorsed medical professional liability carrier, “we have remained committed to earn the respect and trust of members of the health care community and the organizations and individuals who represent them.”

For more information please contact Dale Mahlman, executive vice president, Nebraska Medical Association, at 402-474-4472.