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NANCY G. GROENWEGEN COMMISSIONER

NY10-37

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: New York State Agency Health Benefits Administrators
FROM: Employee Benefits Division
SUBJECT: Creditable Coverage Letter and CHIP Notice
DATE: November 1, 2010

## Creditable Coverage Letter to all NYSHIP enrollees

In late October, the Employee Benefits Division (EBD) began mailing a Creditable Coverage Letter to all NYSHIP enrollees except for enrollees of the Student Employee Health Plan (SEHP). This letter (attached) fulfills the annual creditable coverage notice requirement for 2010.

While it may not pertain to an enrollee at this time, if the enrollee or a dependent should become eligible for Medicare Part D, they will have the proof of coverage information they need. We are directing enrollees to call Social Security, Medicare and The Empire Plan toll free number with their questions, and referring HMO enrollees to their HMOs.

## The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

The CHIP Notice, enclosed with the Creditable Coverage Letter, explains the Medicaid and CHIP offer of free or low cost health coverage for children and families to anyone who might need this assistance.

The Student Employee Health Plan (SEHP) enrollees will receive the CHIP notice by itself.

The 2010 Creditable Coverage Letter and the 2010 CHIP Notice (both attached to this memo) are available on NYSHIP Online in the "What's New" section and HBA Online in the "You Should Know" section.

Coming soon: A new Notices section on NYS Online and HBA Online. We will post the most current version of each mandated notice, including the Creditable Coverage Letter and the CHIP Notice.

If you have questions about NYSHIP benefits, please call your processor at the EBD HBA Help Line at 518-474-2780. If you have questions about this distribution, please call EBD Communications at 518-457-7577.

Attachment: NY/PE Notice of Creditable Coverage - 10/2010 CHIP Notice - 10/2010