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PA11-14

MEMORANDUM

TO: Participating Agency Health Benefits Administrators
FROM: Employee Benefits Division
SUBJECT: January 2011 *Empire Plan Reports and NYSHIP General Information Book/*
Empire Plan Certificate Amendments
DATE: August 5, 2011

We will soon mail the January 2011 *Empire Plan Reports and NYSHIP General Information Book/* *Empire Plan Certificate Amendments* for PA enrollees with The Empire Plan. The mailing also includes an insert, The Empire Plan Preventive Care Coverage.

The *Empire Plan Report* includes:

- **Empire Plan Benefits**
Federal Health Care Changes; Covering Your Young Adult Children; Other 2011 Empire Plan Amendments to Note; Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine; Medicare Durable Medical Equipment and Prosthetics and Orthotics Supply (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program; Reminders: Empire Plan Toll-free Script Changes; MHSA Web Site Improved; New Travel Resource Available; 2011 Participating Provider Directory Postcards; Retiring Outside New York State; Annual Notice of Mastectomy and Reconstructive Surgery Benefits and New Web Site Address

The *NYSHIP General Information Book and Empire Plan Certificate Amendments* include:

- **NYSHIP General Information Book**
Your Spouse; Your Child Under Age 26; Disabled Dependents; Coverage ends, Dependent Survivors; Medicare; Preventive Care Services
- **Benefits Management Program**
- **Empire Plan Certificate Amendments**
Empire BlueCross BlueShield: Transplants; Infertility Benefits; Travel Allowance; Medicare;
UnitedHealthcare Medical/Surgical Program: Meaning of Terms Used; Meningitis Immunization; Adult Immunizations; Annual Deductible; Basic Medical Program; Benefits Management; HCAP; Managed Physical Network; Infertility Benefits; Cancer Program; Travel Allowance; Coordination of Benefits; Medicare; *Empire Plan Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program:* Schedule of Benefits; Coordination of Benefits; Medicare; *Empire Plan Prescription Drug Program:* Meaning of Terms Used; Prior Authorization, Exclusions and Limitations

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Distribution of Reports

These publications will be mailed to enrollee homes in August 2011. We will send you a separate supply of each publication equal to 1 percent of your enrollment. We will also send you a separate stand alone supply of the Preventive Care Coverage flyer equal to 1 percent of your enrollment.

Publications available on our web site: <https://www.cs.ny.gov>

Please check our web site for new publications. We generally post publications when we sign off for printing. That means you can see the publications before enrollees start receiving them.

Ordering Publications

You may order additional copies of the Reports, including Amendments, by using HBA Online. From the Department of Civil Service homepage, <https://www.cs.ny.gov>, select the Benefit Programs button from the left hand navigation. Then click on HBA Online. Open Publications & Forms, then open NYSHIP Publication Order Forms. These publications will be included in the Quick Order packages, which are only available to order on HBA Online. If you need help accessing HBA Online, please call the Help Desk.

If you are unsure of how to order publications or have questions about this distribution, please call the Communications Unit at 518-457-7577.