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PA13-04

TO: Participating Agency Health Benefits Administrators

FROM: Employee Benefits Division SUBJECT: May 2013 Empire Plan Report

DATE: May 31, 2013

We are pleased to announce the May 2013 *Empire Plan Report*. You will notice a new format, organized into easy-to-understand categories such as Benefit Changes, What's New, Empire Plan Changes, NYSHIP Online and Reminders.

The *Report* explains changes to Empire Plan benefits resulting from federal health care reform, State mandates and provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the State and unions representing State employees that have been administratively extended to your group.

Empire Plan Changes

Enhanced Women's Health Care
Autism Spectrum Disorder
Summary of Benefits and Coverage
Prescription Drug Program "New to You"
Medicare Rx Prescription Drug Program
Medoo Name Change
Combined Annual Coinsurance and
Deductible

Medical/Surgical Program Self-Insured Convenience Care Clinics Licensed Nurse Practitioners Vaccine Update Changes to Your EOB

Distribution

We will send a supply equal to 1% of your agency enrollment to you for new employees. See below for specific ordering information.

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. Go to the Department of Civil Service web site at https://www.cs.ny.gov and choose Benefit Programs, then NYSHIP Online and select Participating Agencies and The Empire Plan, if prompted. Publications are available under Using Your Benefits.

Ordering Publications

You may order additional copies of the *Empire Plan Report* from HBA Online under Publications & Forms. This publication is included in each group's Quick Order packages, which are only available to order on HBA Online. (They can be mailed direct to the enrollee's home.)

Please wait until you receive your shipment of the new publications before you place an order.

If you need help accessing HBA Online, please call the GGC Service Desk at 1-800-HBAEMS1. Call the EBD HBA Help Line at 518-474-2780 with questions about information in the *Report*. If you are unsure of how to order publications or have questions about this distribution, please call the EBD Communications Unit at 518-457-7577.