



**Information for NYSHIP Participating Employers**

## *Fourth Quarter Report – 2013*

### **Federal Health Care Reform**

Employee Benefits Division staff continues to monitor and review and monitor updates related to Federal Healthcare Reform which NYSHIP will be required to implement. We will provide updated information as specific actions are taken.

### **Procurement Updates**

**Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MHSA) Program:** The Department of Civil Service (DCS) conducted an emergency procurement in December and awarded one year contract for the MHSA Program to be administered by ValueOptions effective January 1, 2014. The contract provides for an option to extend the contract for up to an additional six months. On March 14<sup>th</sup>, the DCS issued a Request for Proposal to secure the services of a qualified Offeror to administer the MHSA Program following the end of the current contract.

**Prescription Drug Program:** The Empire Plan Prescription Drug Program, administered by CVS/Caremark with a five year contact term, was implemented effective January 1, 2014. This implementation included the termination of medicare primary enrollees from the Employer Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) administered by Express Scripts and their reenrollment in the EGWP administered by Silverscripts, a subsidiary of CVS Caremark. While this enrollment process was successful for over 99% of members, some members experienced problems in this enrollment process requiring additional steps to be taken to maintain coverage. If a member believes they have been incorrectly terminated from their prescription drug coverage, they should call CVS Caremark.

### **NYSHIP e-News for HR Professionals, E-mail Notifications for Participating Employers**

DCS maintains a listserv for HR professionals interested in receiving information about NYSHIP. This information includes broadcast messages that have been posted to NYBEAS, policy memos, memos sent to HBAs, and notices of new NYSHIP publications. To sign-up for this service go to: <http://www.cs.ny.gov/nyship/nyshipnews>.

### **Employer Experience Reports**

Participating Employers' specific Empire Plan financial experience reports are available from the Employee Benefits Division upon request. These reports are calendar year based and provide aggregate data broken down by Plan component – hospital, medical/surgical, mental health/substance abuse and prescription drug. To obtain a financial experience report, PEs may submit an official written request on employer letterhead indicating the calendar years for which reports are desired. The request may be directed to the Employee Benefits Division - Director's Office.

### **GASB 45 Assumptions Report and Census Data**

The 2012 Buck Consultants report *Development of Recommended Actuarial Assumptions for New York State/SUNY GASB Valuation – Participating Employer Version* is now available online at: <http://www.cs.ny.gov/GASB/2012PEReport.pdf>.

NYSHIP will provide PE census reports upon request, for use in complying with the provisions of GASB 45. Since the data included in this report will be current at the time it is provided, it is important that an agency's NYBEAS file is up-to-date, including correctly identifying and coding retirees before requesting census data.

To request a copy of your agency's census information, please send an e-mail to: [MaryEllen.Brucculeri@cs.state.ny.us](mailto:MaryEllen.Brucculeri@cs.state.ny.us) and include your name, PE name & code number, mailing address, phone number and e-mail address. For additional information about GASB 45, please refer to Memos PE06-11 and PE06-21.

### **Prompt Payment of NYSHIP Premium**

The Employee Benefits Division continues to aggressively monitor Participating Employers that fail to submit premium payments in a timely manner. This procedure includes suspension of claims for enrollees of any PE that falls three months behind in premium. To avoid disruption of NYSHIP coverage, PEs must ensure submission of premium payments by the due date, as we must submit premium to the NYSHIP insurers on time. PEs may wish to consider submitting payments electronically to promote timely payments.

### **Availability of Reports Electronically**

The Empire Plan Experience Reports are available through the following direct link to our website: <http://www.cs.ny.gov/ebd/ebdonlinecenter/pamarket/ger.cfm>.

### **CEO, CFO & HBA Name and Address Changes**

Agencies must notify the Employee Benefits Division of any changes in the names and/or addresses (including e-mail addresses) of agency CEOs, CFOs and/or HBAs to ensure that our mailing and contact lists are up-to-date. Any updates should be e-mailed to: [Deborah.Dorazio@cs.state.ny.us](mailto:Deborah.Dorazio@cs.state.ny.us).