



Department of Civil Service

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

NY15-16

MEMORANDUM

TO: New York State Health Benefits Administrators
FROM: Employee Benefits Division
SUBJECT: NYSHIP Health Benefit Publications for Troopers of the New York State Police, effective October 1, 2015
DATE: July 23, 2015

We will soon mail the July 2015 *Empire Plan Special Report* and July 2015 *HMO Special Report*, both of which will include the *NYSHIP Rate Changes Effective October 1, 2015* flyer. This mailing will be followed by the October 1, 2015 *Empire Plan At A Glance* with copayment cards and the *Empire Plan Preventive Care Coverage 2015* flyer. These publications apply only to Troopers of the New York State Police represented by the Police Benevolent Association (PBA).

These publications describe changes affecting NYSHIP coverage effective October 1, 2015, as a result of the collective bargaining agreement between the State of New York and PBA. As a result of these changes, there will be a Special Option Transfer Period from September 1 through September 30, 2015. Please note that any enrollee considering an option change should be referred to the 2015 *Choices for Settled Groups* (AL1288).

You will receive a memo from the Division that provides complete details for Health Benefits Administrators regarding the rate change and how the Special Option Transfer Period will be administered. Please hold any questions you may have about the rate change and Special Option Transfer Period until you have received and carefully reviewed memo NY15-17.

The July 2015 *Empire Plan Special Report* (NY1132) includes:
Special Option Transfer Period; Biweekly Premium Contribution Rate Changes; Updated Life Expectancy Table; Opt-out Program; Federal Health Care Reform Changes and Empire Plan Changes effective October 1, 2015.

The July 2015 *HMO Special Report* (NY1135) includes:
Special Option Transfer Period; Biweekly Premium Contribution Rate Changes; Updated Life Expectancy Table and the Opt-out Program.

The *NYSHIP Rate Changes* flyer (NY1133) includes:
New rates for October 1, 2015, and information on the Special Option Transfer Period.

The October 1, 2015, Empire Plan *At A Glance* (NY1134) with Copayment Cards (AL1347) and *Empire Plan Preventive Care Coverage 2015* flyer (AL1345) includes:

Useful information to serve as a summary guide to Empire Plan benefits. The *At A Glance* is best used together with the *Empire Plan Certificate*.

Distribution

With the exception of the *At A Glance*, these publications will begin to mail to enrollees' homes in late July. We will send you 20 copies of each publication.

Mail files for these publications were pulled from NYBEAS on July 10, 2015. Any enrollee not on file as of that date will not receive these mailings. You may, however, order a Quick Order (QO) Package on HBA Online for a new hire, as it will include these publications. Otherwise, you should include a copy of each appropriate publication in the package of information you give to new hires.

The mail file for the October 1, 2015 *At A Glance* will be pulled from NYBEAS at the end of the Special Option Transfer Period. We will send you five copies of the *At A Glance*, as well as five copies each of the *Preventive Care Coverage* flyer and settled copayment cards.

Publications Available on Our Web Site: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits>

Please check our web site for new publications. We generally post publications when we sign off for printing. Publications are available under Using Your Benefits.

Ordering Publications

You may order additional copies of these publications on HBA Online under Publications & Forms. Please wait until you receive your shipment of the new publications before you place an order.

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