

NYSHIP HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS

Report

December 2001

NEW YORK STATE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (NYSHIP)
FOR NEW YORK STATE AND PARTICIPATING EMPLOYER RETIREES,
VESTEES, DEPENDENT SURVIVORS AND ENROLLEES COVERED UNDER
PREFERRED LIST PROVISIONS and for their enrolled Dependents
and for COBRA Enrollees with their NYSHIP Benefits

Medicare Part B Premium

Former employees of Participating Employers: Ask your former employing agency about Medicare premium reimbursement.

The Medicare Part B premium for 2002 is \$54 per month, up 8 percent from \$50 per month in 2001. The State reimburses you for the Part B premium unless you receive reimbursement from another source. The same automatic reimbursement applies to spouses who become 65 years old after January 1, 2000.

The reimbursement is not automatic for spouses who became 65 years old before January 1, 2000. The reimbursement also is not automatic for your domestic partner or for any enrollee or covered dependent who is under age 65 and eligible for Medicare due to a disability or end stage renal disease. Send proof of Medicare coverage to the Employee Benefits Division to begin the reimbursement.

NYSHIP Reminders

New Baby in the Family

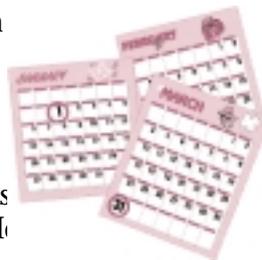
If you have Family coverage, remember to add your newborn child within 30 days after the birth or adoption. If you don't, you may have difficulties receiving services.

Write to the Employee Benefits Division within 30 days and provide a copy of the birth certificate. If you haven't yet received a Social Security number for your baby, be sure to provide a copy of the child's Social Security card as soon as you receive it.

Please see your *NYSHIP General Information Book* for information about changing from Individual to Family coverage because of a new baby in your family.

Medicare General Enrollment

January 1 to March
Medicare's general enrollment period. NYSHIP requires you and your covered dependents to be enrolled in M



Parts A and B when you or they are: age 65 or older; or regardless of age, have been entitled to Social Security disability benefits for more than 24 months; or regardless of age, have end stage renal disease (permanent kidney failure).

If you did not enroll in Medicare when first eligible, contact your local Social Security office to sign up before the open enrollment period ends on March 31, 2002. Coverage will become effective July 1, 2002. You are responsible for the premium surcharge Medicare adds for late enrollment.

Medicare for Disability Retirees

The May 2001 *Medicare for Disability Retirees* is now available for former employees of New York State agencies who take disability retirement. If you would like this publication, call the Employee Benefits Division at 518-457-5754 (Albany area) or 1-800-833-4344 (U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands) and use the automated system to request a copy.

Annual Notice of Mastectomy and Reconstructive Surgery Benefits

By law, insurers must:

- Cover inpatient hospital care for lymph node dissection, lumpectomy and mastectomy for treatment of breast cancer for as long as the physician and patient determine hospitalization is medically necessary
 - Cover breast reconstruction following mastectomy, including surgery of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance
 - Cover treatment for complications of mastectomy, including lymphedema
 - Cover prostheses related to breast reconstruction
 - Notify enrollees annually of this coverage through plan documents
- Contact your HMO if you have questions about these benefits.

SAVE THIS REPORT

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State of New York
 Department of Civil Service
 Employee Benefits Division
 The State Campus
 Albany, New York 12239
<http://www.cs.state.ny.us>

SAVE THIS DOCUMENT
 NYSHIP Information
 for the Enrollee, Enrolled Spouse/Domestic Partner
 and Other Enrolled Dependents

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ADDRESS SERVICE
 REQUESTED

It is the policy of the State of New York Department of Civil Service to provide reasonable accommodation to ensure effective communication of information in benefits publications to individuals with disabilities. These publications are also available on the Employee Benefits Division Web site (<http://www.cs.state.ny.us>), which meets universal accessibility standards adopted by New York State for NYS Agency Web sites. If you need an auxiliary aid or service to make benefits information available to you, please contact the Employee Benefits Division at 518-457-5754 (Albany area) or 1-800-833-4344 (U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands).

 This NYSHIP HMO Report was printed using recycled paper and environmentally sensitive inks.

HMO-Retirees-01-2 

NYSHIP Health Maintenance Organizations Telephone Numbers Effective January 1, 2002

Aetna U.S. Healthcare.....	1-800-323-9930
Blue Choice.....	(716) 454-4810 or 1-800-462-0108
Capital District Physicians' Health Plan, Inc. (CDPHP)	1-800-777-2273
Community Blue	(716) 884-2800 or 1-800-544-2583
Elderplan, Inc.	1-800ELDER65 (1-800-353-3765)
Empire HMO (formerly BlueChoice HMO)	1-800-453-0113
GHI HMO Select.....	1-877-244-4466
HIP Health Plan of New York.....	1-800-HIP-TALK (1-800-447-8255)
HMOBlue	1-800-722-7884
HMO-CNY.....	1-800-447-6269
Independent Health-Western New York	(716) 631-8701 or 1-800-501-3439
MVP Health Care.....	1-888-687-6277
Preferred Care.....	(716) 325-3113 or 1-800-950-3224
Univera (formerly Univera Healthcare)	1-800-337-3338
Vytra Health Plans	(631) 694-6565

The NYSHIP Health Maintenance Organizations Report is published by the Employee Benefits Division of the State of New York Department of Civil Service. The Employee Benefits Division administers the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP). NYSHIP provides your health insurance benefits through a NYSHIP-approved Health Maintenance Organization.



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Call your NYSHIP HMO for:

- benefits information
- lists of providers
- replacement cards
- prescription drug information (unless you receive prescription drug coverage through a union Employee Benefit Fund)
- converting to a direct-pay contract
- coordinating with Medicare