

# NYSHIP

HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS

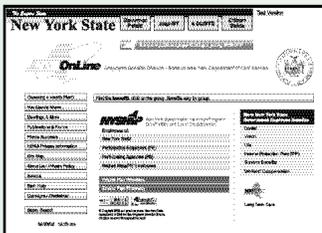
REPORT

JUNE 2003

NEW YORK STATE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (NYSHIP)  
FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
REPRESENTED BY DISTRICT COUNCIL 37

And for their enrolled Dependents  
and for COBRA Enrollees with their NYSHIP Benefits

## The New NYS OnLine



Have you visited NYS OnLine lately? Check out our newly designed health benefits section of the New York State Department of Civil Service Web site at [www.cs.state.ny.us](http://www.cs.state.ny.us). Click on Employee Benefits and find up-to-date information about your NYSHIP benefits.

The new NYS OnLine features faster page response and a site-wide search function. The site also offers recent publications and important telephone numbers.

If you don't have computer access to the Internet, visit your local library. Most libraries have computers linked to the Internet.

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## In This Report

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## Reminders

### Pre-Retirement Seminars

The Department of Civil Service cooperates with the Office for the Aging in presenting pre-retirement seminars. A representative from the Employee Benefits Division will explain the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) and your choices before you leave the payroll. Call your personnel office to learn if there's a seminar available in your area.

You can also check the schedule on the New York State Department of Civil Service Web site, [www.cs.state.ny.us](http://www.cs.state.ny.us). Click on Employee Benefits, then on Meetings & More.

### When You Write to Us



Please also include your name and health insurance identification number in your letter. Without this information, our response to you may be delayed.

### Access to Obstetric and Gynecologic Services

In accordance with the Women's Health and Wellness Act, effective January 1, 2003, insurers must:

- Provide direct access to primary and preventive obstetric and gynecologic services for no fewer than two examinations annually
- Cover services required as a result of annual examinations

- Cover services required as a result of an acute gynecologic condition
- Cover all care related to pregnancy
- Notify enrollees of this coverage through plan documents

Contact your HMO if you have questions about these benefits.

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

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NYSHIP information for the Enrollee, Enrolled Spouse/  
Domestic Partner and Other Enrolled Dependents

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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 ([www.cs.state.ny.us](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 your agency Health Benefits Administrator. COBRA Enrollees: 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.

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## Save This Report

Please keep this *NYSHIP Health Maintenance Organizations Report*, and any later Reports, with your February 1, 2003 *NYSHIP General Information Book* for District Council 37. We mailed the Book to you in March.

If you do not have your February 1, 2003 *NYSHIP General Information Book*, please ask your agency Health Benefits Administrator for a copy. The Book is also available on the New York State Department of Civil Service Web site, [www.cs.state.ny.us](http://www.cs.state.ny.us). Click on Employee Benefits, then on Publications & Forms.

### HIPAA Notice

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a federal law designed to improve the nation's health care system. HIPAA includes national standards to protect the privacy of personal health information. The HIPAA privacy regulation, "Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information," became effective April 14, 2003. The NYSHIP

Privacy Notice is available on the New York State Department of Civil Service Web site at [www.cs.state.ny.us](http://www.cs.state.ny.us). Click on Employee Benefits and then on Publications & Forms. Or 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 order a copy.