

IN THIS ISSUE

[Health Reform Explained](#)

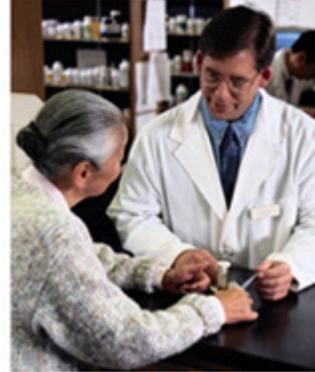
[New Durable Medical
Equipment \(DME\)
Provider](#)

[Healthy Meals for Needy
New Yorkers](#)



Changes to Our Small Group Formulary

As we informed you this past April in a broker news flash, beginning June 1, 2012, your small group clients, including sole proprietors and GHI HMO groups, will see changes to their drug formulary. Some prescription drugs were removed from the formulary and have become non-preferred. These drugs now require step therapy or prior authorization, or have quantity level limits.



We notified your [clients](#) and their affected group [members](#) of these changes in mid-April in a mailing, which included a letter, [FAQ](#) and the updated [formulary](#). We also mailed a second notification letter in mid-May.

The changes to the formulary will only affect your small group clients' employees and their dependents if they are taking any of the prescription drugs listed in the letter we mailed them. Since non-preferred drugs have higher out-of-pocket costs, we encourage members affected by the updates to speak with their doctor about comparable prescription drugs that may help them save money.

JUNE 2012 IN THIS ISSUE

[Changes to Our
Small Group
Formulary](#)

✓ [Health Reform
Explained](#)

[New Durable
Medical
Equipment \(DME\)
Provider](#)

[Healthy Meals
for Needy
New Yorkers](#)

Health Reform Explained

Within the Affordable Care Act's 2,409 pages are provisions that will directly affect you, your clients and prospects for years to come.

Our health reform Web site, www.emblemhealthreform.com,

lets you know what short- and long-term changes to expect. For example, you should know that

the federal health reform law already has:

- Eliminated cost-sharing for certain preventive services for new plans started on or after September 23, 2010
- Allowed for creation of a temporary high-risk pool to provide health coverage for people with pre-existing medical conditions
- Provided new tax credits for small businesses that offer employees health insurance
- Began closing the "donut hole" in Medicare Part D drug coverage
- Extended coverage for young adult children for plan years beginning on or after September 23, 2010



In the years ahead, you'll see more changes. EmblemHealth will be here to help. Our [health reform Web site](#) is full of information and resources that can help you better understand what reform means to you. Visit www.emblemhealthreform.com today.

JUNE 2012 IN THIS ISSUE

[Changes to Our
Small Group
Formulary](#)

[Health Reform
Explained](#)

✓ [New Durable
Medical
Equipment \(DME\)
Provider](#)

[Healthy Meals
for Needy
New Yorkers](#)

New Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Provider

If you have any GHI PPO commercial or Medicare clients whose members or their dependents use home oxygen or other home durable medical equipment (DME), here is some important news. As of June 1, 2012, EmblemHealth has changed its home DME participating provider network. [Apria Healthcare](#), the nation's leading provider of home DME, is now the preferred provider for GHI PPO commercial and Medicare members who use such equipment.



We've already sent [letters](#) to your clients' group members affected by the change advising them about what they need to do to ensure a smooth transition to Apria or an alternative participating home DME provider. In addition, Apria has a dedicated team of customer care coordinators to answer questions, explain the transition process and handle all the arrangements.

We recommend that you advise clients affected by this change to call **1-800-229-8517** for assistance with the transition. Those who don't call proactively may, at our request, receive a call from an Apria coordinator to initiate the transition process. Rest assured that there will be no disruption in their home DME services during the transition.

At EmblemHealth, we're committed to providing our members with high quality, cost-effective services under their plans. Likewise, Apria Healthcare is committed to ensuring that members receive the high quality services they need, when they need it.

JUNE 2012 IN THIS ISSUE

[Changes to Our
Small Group
Formulary](#)

[Health Reform
Explained](#)

[New Durable
Medical
Equipment \(DME\)
Provider](#)

✓ [Healthy Meals
for Needy
New Yorkers](#)

Healthy Meals for Needy New Yorkers

As part of our ongoing community outreach efforts in New York City, we're working to promote good health through healthy eating for needy New Yorkers throughout the city.

Here are some ways EmblemHealth has partnered with neighborhood organizations to put a healthy meal within the reach of New Yorkers who otherwise may not get one:



- We sponsor *Harvest Home Farmer's Markets*, increasing access of local, farm-fresh produce to low-income neighborhoods in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens.
- We've partnered with *City Harvest*, which gives food to community programs that feed impoverished New Yorkers. We also help them distribute food in Washington Heights.
- For *Citymeals-on-Wheels*, we help support the provision of weekend meals to homebound senior citizens in Flushing and Cambria Heights who are unable to prepare their own meals. This program helps them stay healthy and independent in their homes.

Look for us throughout the year to continue helping New Yorkers stay healthy and live better as we keep building and maintaining relationships in the communities we serve.