

NYRx Education & Outreach Month in Review Newsletter

April 2026



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Welcome!

As we wrap up the month of March, we'd like to highlight these activities from the past month. In this issue, you'll find links to new and updated information from NYRx Education & Outreach and the New York State Department of Health.

New & Updated Publications

NYRx Education & Outreach Publications

Newly Published

- [NYRx Notice to Providers Pharmacies and MCOs Urgent Medical Device Correction – Omnipod® 5 Pods from Insulet](#) – Published March 19, 2026.

Recently Updated

- [NYRx Brand Less Than Generic Program Update](#) – Effective March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Preferred Drug Quick List](#) – Effective March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Preferred Drug List](#) – Effective March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Cost Optimization Program Overview](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Billing Guidance Non-Patient-Specific Orders](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx, the Medicaid Pharmacy Program: CoverMyMeds® Electronic Prior Authorization Frequently Asked Questions](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Electronic Prior Authorization via CoverMyMeds How-To Guide: Prescribers, Prescriber's Authorized Agents, and Pharmacies](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Drug Class Coverage Overview: Anti-Infective - Topicals](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Drug Class Coverage Overview: Benzodiazepines](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Drug Class Coverage Overview: Insulin - Long-Acting](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Drug Class Coverage Overview: Skeletal Muscle Relaxants](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Education & Outreach: Information for New York State Medicaid Providers](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.

- [NYRx Formulary Update: Hydroxym \(hydrocortisone gel\)](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Notice to Providers and Pharmacies Claim Submission with ICD-10](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Preferred Diabetic Agents](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [NYRx Prior Authorization Submission Guide](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [Step Therapy Overview](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.
- [Three Ways to Submit a Prior Authorization to NYRx, the Medicaid Pharmacy Program](#) – Revised March 19, 2026.

New York State Department of Health Publications

- [Attention Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers: Prohibited Prior Authorization Requests](#) – Published March 24, 2026. Communication for dental, midwife, nurse practitioner, podiatry, and physician providers.
- [Cost Optimization Program Update: Program Additions](#) – Published March 12, 2026. Communication for pharmacy providers. Certain drugs require a Manual Review by NYRx for coverage approval.
- [New York State Medicaid Emergency Services Only Coverage](#) – Published March 25, 2026. Reminder to providers of NYS Medicaid policy when submitting claims for treating individuals with Emergency Services Only (ESO) Coverage Code “07”.
- [New York State Medicaid Enteral Nutrition Regulatory Amendment and Prior Authorization Updates](#) – Published March 25, 2026. Effective February 11, 2026, Subdivision (g) of §505.5 of Title 18 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York has been amended.
- [Qutenza Billing](#) – Published March 19, 2026. Communication for pharmacy providers. QUTENZA will be available to New York Medicaid members by either billing by the “Buy and Bill” model under the medical benefit for Fee-for-Service (FFS) members or billing to a NY Medicaid Managed Care Plan (MMCP) for Managed Care Plan enrollees.

New York State Department of Health Press Releases

- [Governor Hochul Announces New Funding Opportunity for Abortion Health Care Services](#) – Published March 18, 2026. Governor Hochul announced \$20 million in state grants available to eligible providers to fund medication abortion health care services under the New York State Supplemental Abortion Provider Support Fund.
- [New York State Department of Health Provides Update on Federal Approval to Preserve Health Coverage for 1.3 Million New Yorkers](#) – Published March 23, 2026. The New York State Department of Health provided an update following federal approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of the State's request to terminate its Section 1332 State Innovation Waiver and return to Basic Health Program (BHP) authority. The transition preserves Essential Plan coverage for approximately 1.3 million New Yorkers with incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.
- [New York State Department of Health Urges Screening As Colorectal Cancer Now a Leading Cause of Cancer Deaths for Adults Under 50](#) – Published March 12, 2026. The New York State Department of Health is encouraging all adults ages 45 and older to get screened for colorectal cancer (cancer of the colon or rectum). This call to action comes as new research from the American Cancer Society shows colorectal cancer is now a leading cause of cancer death for people under age 50.

About Us

The NYRx Education & Outreach team serves as a liaison between all stakeholders and NYRx to support care coordination. Clinical liaisons are trained to support and help solve complex pharmacy cases for:

- Managed Care Plans
- Case workers and NYS agencies
- Prescribers and pharmacies with questions regarding NYRx drug coverage, prior approval requirements, and NYRx enrolled pharmacies
- Complex care coordination for populations such as HIV/AIDS, Hemophilia, Foster Care Children, Serious Mental Illness, Substance Use Disorder, and Hepatitis C

Resources

- [NYRx E&O Website](#)
- [NYRx E&O YouTube Channel](#)
- [New York Public Health Now Podcast](#)

Contact Us

- [NYRx E&O Mailbox](#)
- NYRx E&O Call Center at 1-833-967-7310, M – F, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET, Excludes Holidays
- The NYRx E&O team is available to meet with you. To request a meeting, click [here](#).