



# STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Richard F. Daines, M.D.  
*Commissioner*

Wendy E. Saunders  
*Chief of Staff*

March 14, 2008

Dear Prescriber:

The New York State Medicaid Preferred Drug Program (PDP) is expanding to include additional drug classes. Prescriptions written on or after April 15, 2008 for non-preferred drugs in the following drug classes will require prior authorization:

- Carbamazepine Derivatives
- Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESAs)
- Growth Hormones
- Ophthalmic Alpha-2 Adrenergic Agonists (for Glaucoma)
- Ophthalmic Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs)
- Progestins (for Cachexia)

Remember: if you prescribe the preferred drug, no further action on your part is required. To obtain prior authorization for non-preferred drugs, please call the prior authorization clinical call center at 1-877-309-9493. **Be sure to listen for the appropriate prompts.** The clinical call center is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with pharmacy technicians and pharmacists who will work with you, or your agent, to quickly obtain a prior authorization number.

Requests for prior authorization of non-preferred drugs can be faxed to the clinical call center at 1-800-268-2990. Please note that a faxed request can take up to 24 hours to be completed.

Enclosed is the most up to date Preferred Drug List, with a full listing of preferred and non-preferred drugs for each of the drug classes currently subject to the PDP. Additional information, such as a "Quicklist" of only preferred drugs and updated prior authorization forms is available at one of the following websites:

[www.nyhealth.gov](http://www.nyhealth.gov) or <http://newyork.fhsc.com> or [www.eMedNY.org](http://www.eMedNY.org)

You can also call the clinical call center at the number above to obtain faxed copies of this information.

If you have any questions or wish to obtain additional information regarding the PDP, please call the staffed clinical call center at 1-877-309-9493. Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to provide a quality pharmacy program for Medicaid enrollees.

Sincerely,



Mary Kelley Cherubin  
Preferred Drug Program Manager  
Bureau of Pharmacy Policy and Operations  
Office of Health Insurance Programs

Enclosure