

EPIC NEW YORK STATE SENIOR PRESCRIPTION PLAN

P.O. BOX 15018, ALBANY, NY 12212-5018

1-800-332-3742

IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT COVERAGE CHANGES

August 2011

Dear EPIC Member:

On January 1, 2012, the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) program will change. **EPIC will only provide drug coverage for prescription drugs while you are in your Medicare Part D coverage gap (donut hole).** Until you reach your coverage gap, you will need to pay the price charged by your Part D plan for your drugs. EPIC assistance will begin once you reach your coverage gap. EPIC co-payments will be \$3-\$20 depending on the cost of the drug.

In order to receive EPIC benefits while in the coverage gap, **all members must have Medicare Part D.** There are no exceptions. If you are not enrolled in a Part D plan you will not receive EPIC assistance. Since EPIC is no longer covering drugs before you reach your coverage gap, it is very important that you re-examine your Medicare Part D plan. You should make sure it covers all your drugs at the lowest possible price, especially the most expensive drugs you are taking. For assistance in selecting a Part D plan you can consult your pharmacist or contact your local Office for the Aging to talk with a counselor.

EPIC will pay Medicare Part D premiums, up to the amount of a basic plan, for all members with annual income below \$23,000 if single and \$29,000 if married. EPIC members with higher incomes will be responsible for paying their own Medicare Part D premiums. Under the new EPIC program, there will no longer be EPIC fees or deductibles.

See the reverse side for a summary of benefits. Also, enclosed is a copy of the notice of non-creditable coverage. If you have any questions about these changes, call the EPIC Helpline at 1-800-332-3742 Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

Sincerely,

Alan D. Ball
Director

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NEW EPIC PROGRAM BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012

Part D Stage	Medicare Part D Drug Plan Costs	EPIC Member Pays	EPIC Program Pays
1	Medicare Deductible – \$0 to \$320	EPIC member pays 100% of the cost of Part D plan covered drugs if the plan has a Part D deductible.	No EPIC coverage
2	Initial Coverage – total drug cost* up to \$2,930	EPIC member pays all of the Part D plan co-payments or co-insurance for Part D plan covered drugs based on drug tier.	No EPIC coverage
3	Part D Coverage Gap – total drug cost* between \$2,930 and \$6,657.50	EPIC member pays \$3 - \$20 EPIC co-payment based on cost of drug for Part D covered drugs and Part D excluded drugs (e.g. anti-anxiety or anti-seizure drugs) purchased in the Part D coverage gap.	EPIC pays for Medicare Part D covered drugs and Medicare Part D excluded drugs purchased in the Part D coverage gap.
4	Catastrophic Coverage – total drug cost* greater than \$6,657.50	EPIC member pays 5% of the cost of Part D covered drugs.	No EPIC coverage
	Member not enrolled in Part D	EPIC member pays 100% of cost of drugs; no Part D coverage; may incur penalty	No EPIC coverage

- EPIC program is **Free** – no fees or deductibles
- Must be enrolled in Medicare Part D drug plan to receive EPIC benefits
- EPIC pays the Medicare Part D plan premium up to the basic amount for members with income up to \$23,000 single or \$29,000 married
- EPIC pays the Medicare Part D plan premium for members with Extra Help

*Total drug cost is cost of drug paid by Part D plan plus member co-payments or co-insurance.