



Department  
of Health

# Transition of Pharmacy Benefit from Managed Care to NYRx

All Stakeholders: Implementation Update

October 18, 2022

# Overview

- **NYRx Benefits**
  - Coverage and Utilization Management
  - Access to Non-Preferred Products
- **Resources and Updates**
  - Frequently Asked Questions
  - Medicaid Call Centers
- **Q&A**

October 18, 2022

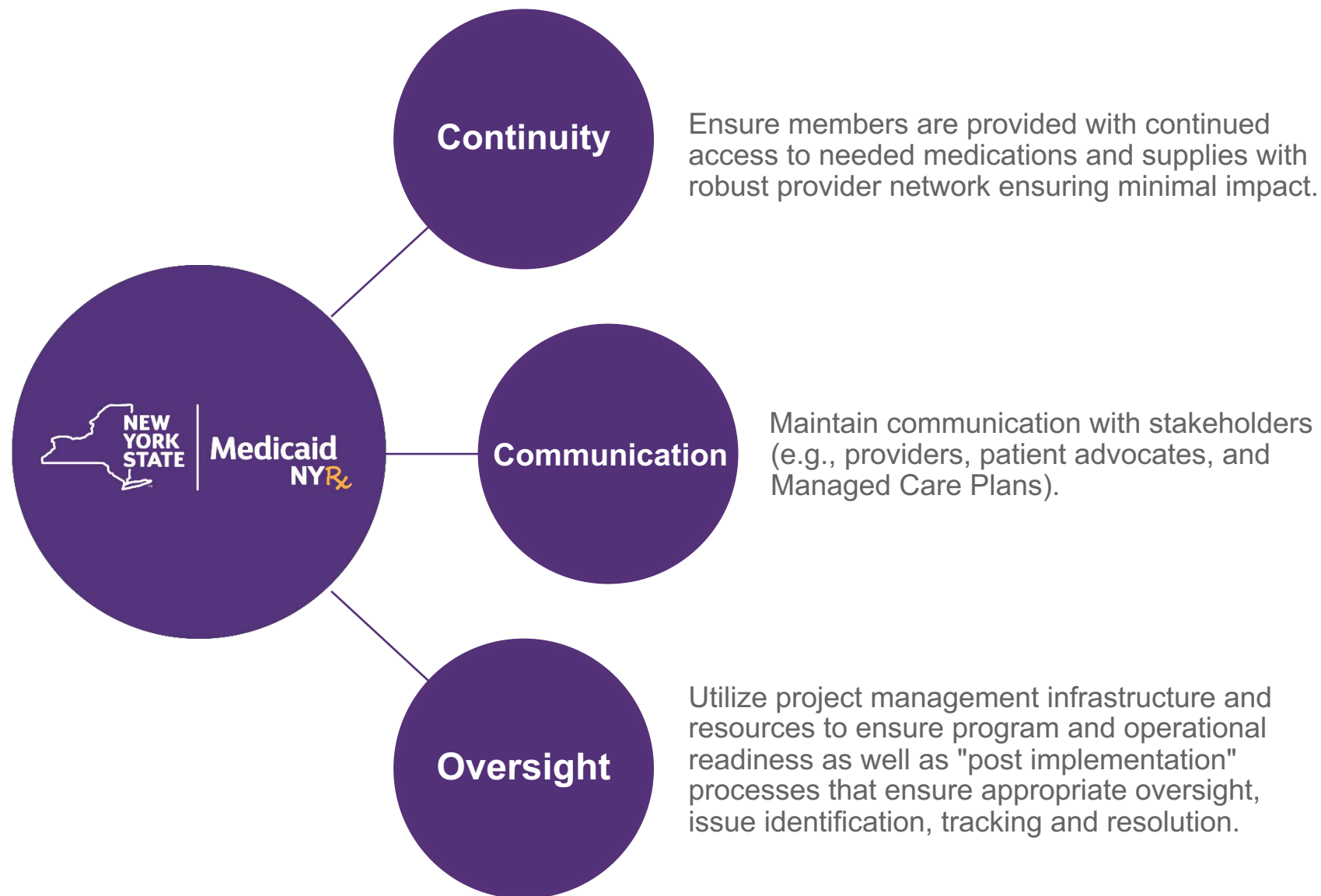


# Transition Overview

- Beginning April 1, 2023, Medicaid members enrolled in mainstream Managed Care (MC) plans, Health and Recovery Plans (HARPs), and HIV-Special Needs (SNPs) will receive their pharmacy benefits through the Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Pharmacy Program.
- The transition will not apply to members enrolled in Managed Long-Term Care plans (e.g., PACE, MAP, and MLTC), the Essential Plan, or Child Health Plus.
- The transition will not change the scope of benefits (e.g., copayments and covered drugs) of the existing Medicaid Pharmacy Benefit.

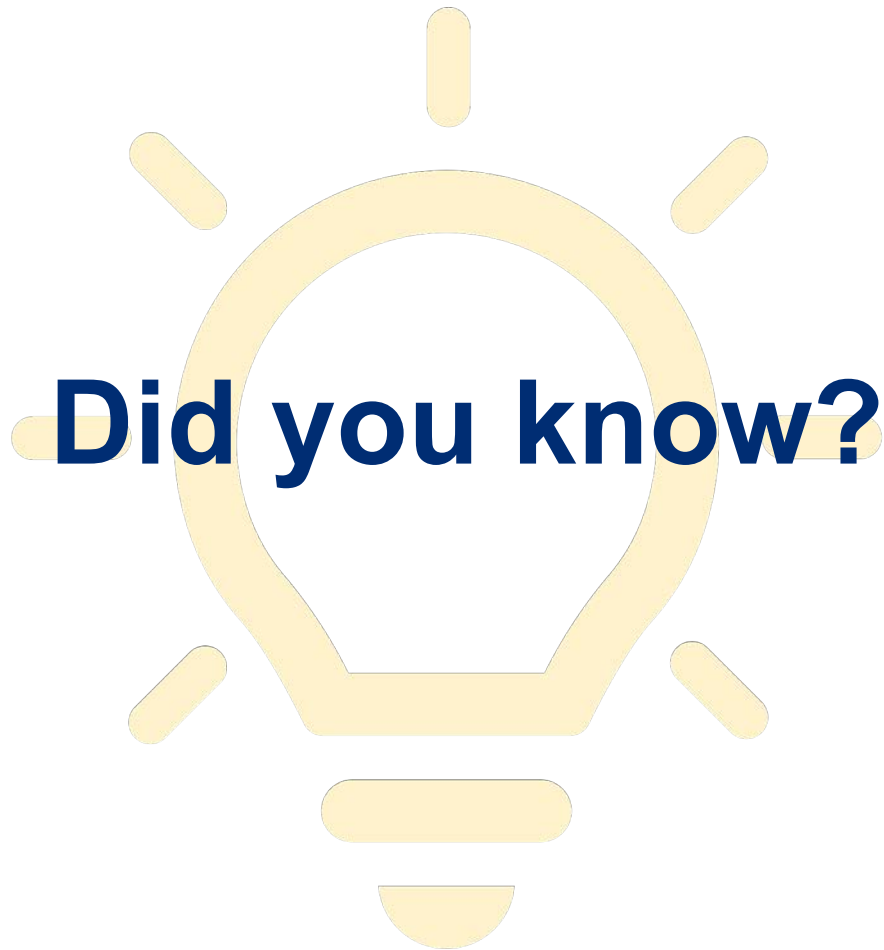
October 18, 2022

# Transition Guiding Principles



# NYRx Benefits

outpatient prescription drugs, physician administered drugs, outpatient over the counter drugs: analgesic and antipyretic, antacid, anti-diarrheal, antihistamine, anti-vertigo, artificial tears and ocular/oral lubricants, chronic renal disease, cough and cold, dermatological, family planning, hematinic, insulin, pediculicide, can be administered by pharmacists, enteral and feeding supply kit and tubing, family planning, incontinence care, antiseptics, commode accessories, catheters, diabetic diagnostics and daily care, mastectomy supplies, urinary supplies, ostomy supplies, wound dressings, bandages, wraps, surgical stockings, slings, splints, cervical foam rollers, plastic strips, sterile wood applicators, spirometers, nasal aspirators, disposable drug delivery systems, sterile water, saline, dextrose, hearing aid batteries, durable medical equipment: hospital beds



**NYRx (Medicaid Fee-For-Service) has always set the policies for pharmacy benefits across the entire Medicaid program, and Manage Care Plans provide a benefit similar to FFS.**

When the transition to NYRx occurs on April 1, 2023, all Medicaid members will have access to consistent, comprehensive pharmacy benefits regardless of their health condition.

Under NYRx, members have access to a comprehensive list of products. Managed Care Plans tend to offer only a subset of these products on their formulary.

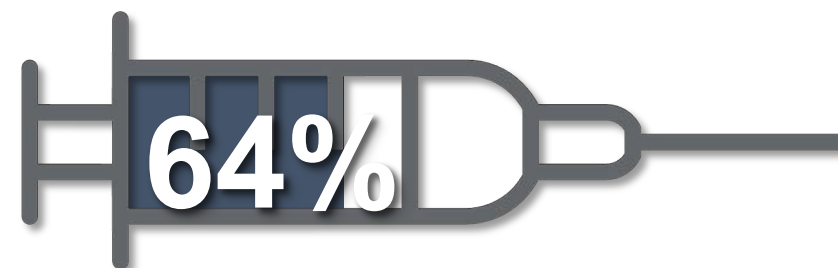
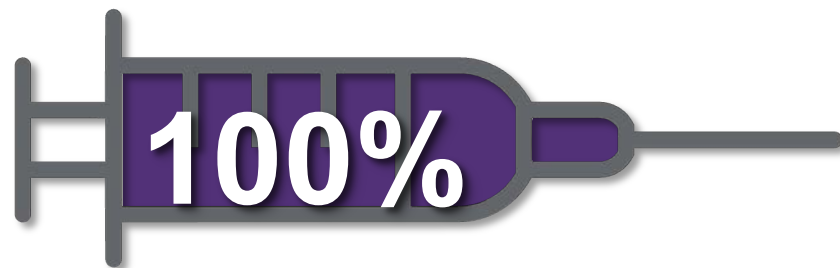
October 18, 2022

# NYRx

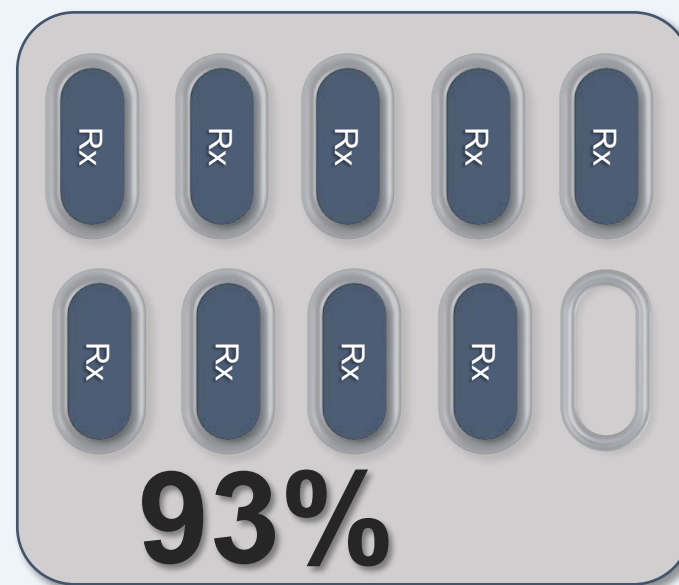
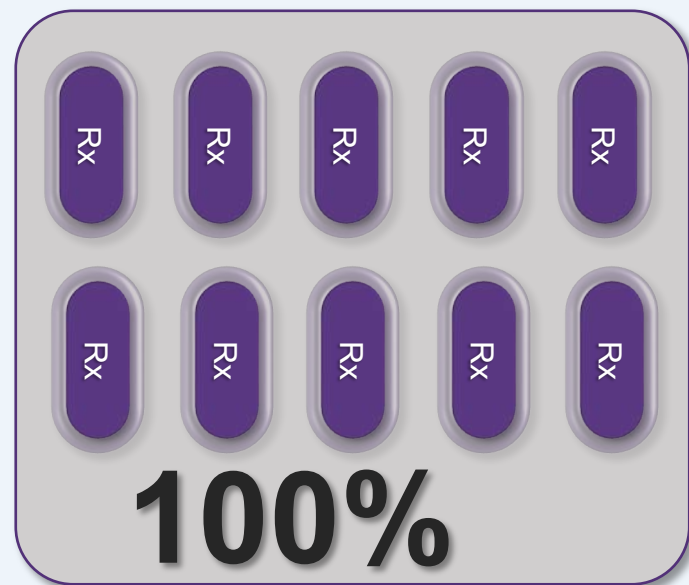
# vs

# Managed Care

## Diabetes



## HIV



# Products Covered by NYRx


Medicaid Fee-For-Service covers a comprehensive list of drugs and supplies.


## Medicaid Pharmacy List of Reimbursable Drugs


This page contains drug information from the pharmacy file. The full list of reimbursable drugs may be viewed online or downloaded, using the link provided below. Only those prescription and non-prescription drugs which appear on the list are reimbursable under the fee-for-service Medicaid Pharmacy Program.

**Attention Prescribers:**

- The Medicaid Pharmacy List of Reimbursable drugs includes only those drugs covered under the Pharmacy benefit and is not inclusive of all covered practitioner administered drugs. Information regarding Medicaid **fee-for-service** covered Practitioner Administered Drugs can be found in the [Provider Manuals](#) in the Procedure Code and Fee Schedule sections for Drugs, and in Provider Communications.
- For coverage information regarding Practitioner Administered Drugs for **managed care** enrollees, please refer to the managed care plan's medical benefit policies and procedures.

 [View/Download PDF of Reimbursable Drugs](#)

 [Download CSV of Reimbursable Drugs](#)

 [View/Download Formulary and Benefits File Format](#)  
 This zip file contains eight pipe delimited text files and creates the following output files: Formulary Status; Copay List; Age Limit Coverage; Gender Limit; Prior Auth Coverage; Quantity Limit Coverage; Text Message Coverage; Cross Reference

[Formulary File Information](#)  
 This file contains the Formulary File Information and field layouts.

### Find File Information

Field:

Value:

Sort By:

[Search !\[\]\(eba42cb4b05110734a36912dbd2b327b\_img.jpg\)](#)

<https://www.emedny.org/info/formfile.aspx>

October 18, 2022



# Utilization Management

Additionally, NYRx manages a subset of products with utilization management tools:

- **Preferred Drug Program (PDP)** promotes the use of less expensive, equally effective prescription drugs when medically appropriate. All drugs currently covered by Medicaid remain available under the PDP, and the determination of preferred and non-preferred drugs does not prohibit a prescriber from obtaining any of the medications covered under Medicaid.
- **Preferred Diabetic Supply Programs (PDSP)** covers a wide variety of blood glucose monitors and test strips provided by pharmacies and durable medical equipment (DME) providers through use of a preferred supply list (PSL).

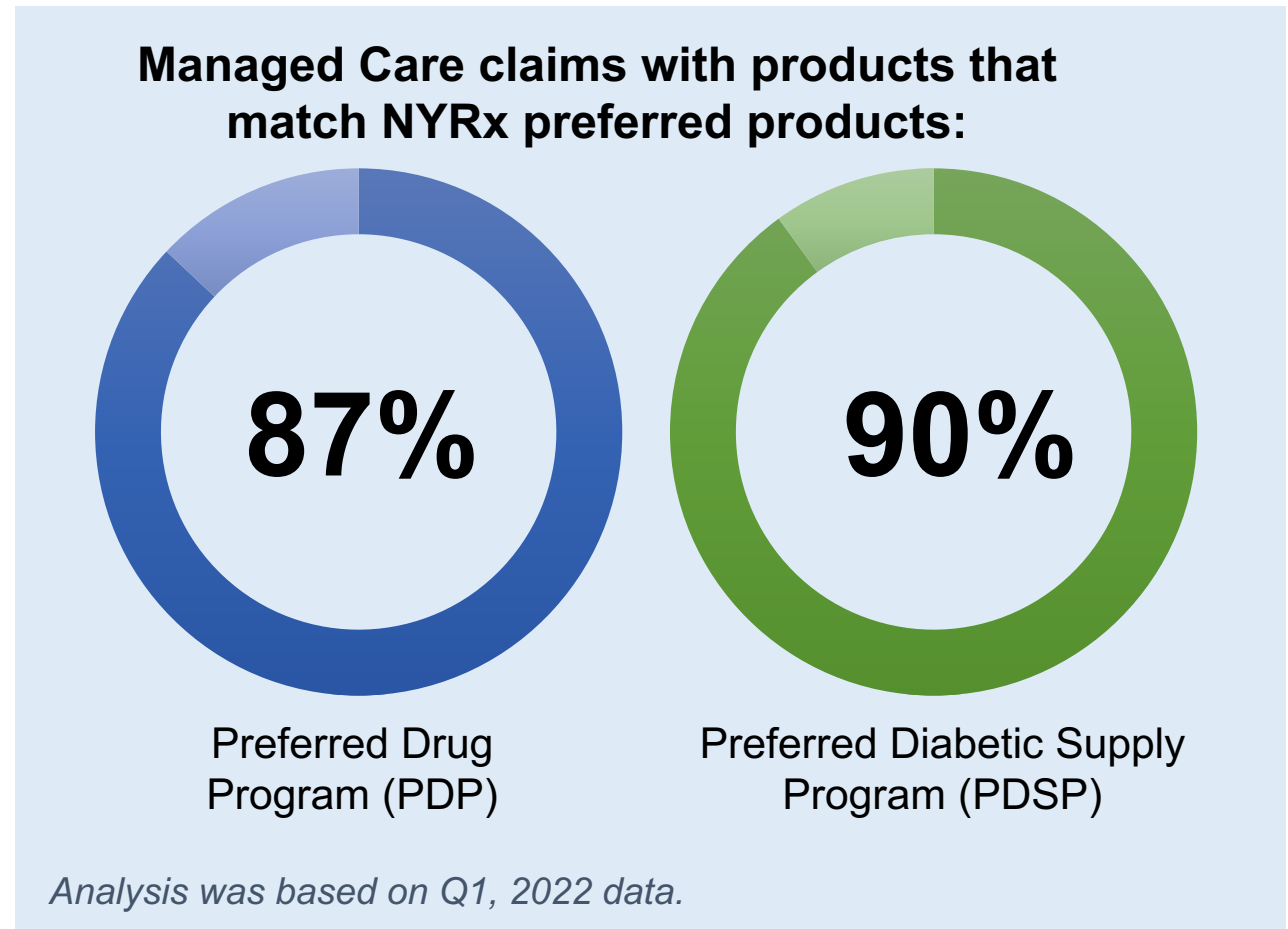
Visit <https://newyork.fhsc.com/> for more information about these programs.

# Matching to NYRx Preferred Products

NYSDOH analyzed claims to identify non-preferred products that are:

- Used by Medicaid Managed Care members; and
- Match NYRx preferred products.

**More than 87% of Managed Care claims are for products that match NYRx products under the Preferred Drug and Diabetic Supply Programs.**



October 18, 2022

# Access to Non-Preferred Products

**“Starting April 1, 2023, will members be able to get their medication if it is a non-preferred product?”**

- NYS DOH will leverage clinical editing criteria which may allow for members to continue to receive non-formulary/non-preferred medication.
- Prior authorizations established in Managed Care will continue to be honored and could allow for non-formulary/non-preferred drug coverage.
- There will be a transition period from April 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023 where members will be provided with a one-time, temporary fill for drugs that would normally require prior authorization under the NYRx Preferred Drug Program.

Note: Prescribers should obtain a prior authorization for the non-preferred product or change the prescription to a preferred product which does not require prior authorization.

See FAQs 051 and 113 on the transition website:

[https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt2/pharmacy\\_transition/pharmacy\\_transition\\_faq.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt2/pharmacy_transition/pharmacy_transition_faq.htm)

October 18, 2022

# Resources and Updates

October 18, 2022

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

You are Here: [Home Page](#) > [Medicaid Pharmacy Program](#) > Transition of the Pharmacy Benefit from Managed Care (MC) to the Medicaid Pharmacy program, NYRx

## Transition of the Pharmacy Benefit from Managed Care (MC) to the Medicaid Pharmacy program, NYRx

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- [FAQs](#) also available in Portable Document Format (PDF)

**Updated: October 12, 2022**

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

- + General
- + 1115 Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) Waiver
- + 340B
- + Managed Care Plans (MCPs)
- Formulary Management and Drug Utilization Review (DUR)

**FAQ 023** What formulary will be used when the pharmacy benefit is transitioned to the Medicaid NYRx Pharmacy program and how will it be updated? Will the State use the current Medicaid Pharmacy NYRx reimbursement methodology?

**Updated:** October 12, 2022

When the pharmacy benefit is transitioned to the NYRx program, the [Medicaid Pharmacy List of Reimbursable Drugs](#) will continue to be used and updated as it is today. The full list of reimbursable drugs may be viewed online or downloaded. Likewise, the Medicaid [NYRx Pharmacy reimbursement methodology](#) will be used.

## New FAQs Added!

Questions received during the August and September meetings have been incorporated into the FAQs.

[https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt2/pharmacy\\_transition/pharmacy\\_transition\\_faq.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt2/pharmacy_transition/pharmacy_transition_faq.htm)

October 18, 2022

# Medicaid Call Centers

For Members	For Pharmacy and DME Providers	
<p><b>Medicaid Helpline</b>            Phone: (800) 541-2831            Hours:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday - Friday 8AM - 8PM</li> <li>Saturday 9AM - 1PM</li> </ul>           Website:  <a href="https://member.emedny.org/">https://member.emedny.org/</a></p> <p>Members and their caretakers can contact the helpline if they have questions about their Medicaid benefits.</p>	<p><b>eMedNY</b>            Phone: (800) 343-9000            Hours:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday - Friday 7AM - 10PM</li> <li>Saturday - Sunday 8:30AM - 5:30PM</li> </ul>           Website: <a href="https://www.emedny.org/">https://www.emedny.org/</a></p> <p>Providers can contact eMedNY for assistance with Medicaid enrollment, billing, and ePACES.</p>	<p><b>Magellan Clinical Call Center</b>            Phone: (877) 309-9493            Hours:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daily</li> <li>24 hours</li> </ul>           Website: <a href="https://newyork.fhsc.com/">https://newyork.fhsc.com/</a></p> <p>Providers can contact Magellan for assistance with prior authorizations, clinical concerns, and the Preferred Drug Program.</p>

*Call center hours may be added when the pharmacy benefit transition occurs on April 1, 2023.*

October 18, 2022

# Key Deliverables and Timeline Updates

Deliverable(s)	Target Date	
Complete Work Plan and Establish State Transition Team	June 2022	✓
Recurring Workgroup Calls with Health Plans about Transition begin	June 2022	✓
Finalize NYS DOH/Managed Care Plan Roles	June 2022	✓
Finalize NYS DOH/Managed Care Plan Scope of Benefits and Transition & Communications Timeline	July 2022	✓
NYS DOH Website Go-Live	July 2022	✓
Recurring All Stakeholders meetings begin	August 2022	✓
Transition Analysis Conducted (e.g., Formulary, DME, OTC Comparisons), Changes Made To Smooth Transition and Transition Strategy Finalized	August 2022	✓

October 18, 2022

# Key Deliverables and Timeline Updates

Deliverable(s)	Target Date
Initial Special Edition Medicaid Update Published	November 2022
Second Special Edition Medicaid Update Published	February 2023
Member Notice of Change and Non-Enrolled Provider Notifications Sent	February 2023
Make Required Changes to Common Benefit Identification Card (CBIC) Carrier or Notice	April 2023
Go Live	April 1, 2023

October 18, 2022



# Resources



Website: Information regarding the transition of the pharmacy benefit from Managed Care to NYRx will be posted on the DOH website at [https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt2/pharmacy\\_transition/](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/mrt2/pharmacy_transition/)



Email: [NYRx@health.ny.gov](mailto:NYRx@health.ny.gov) – Please include **Pharmacy Benefit Transition** in the subject line.



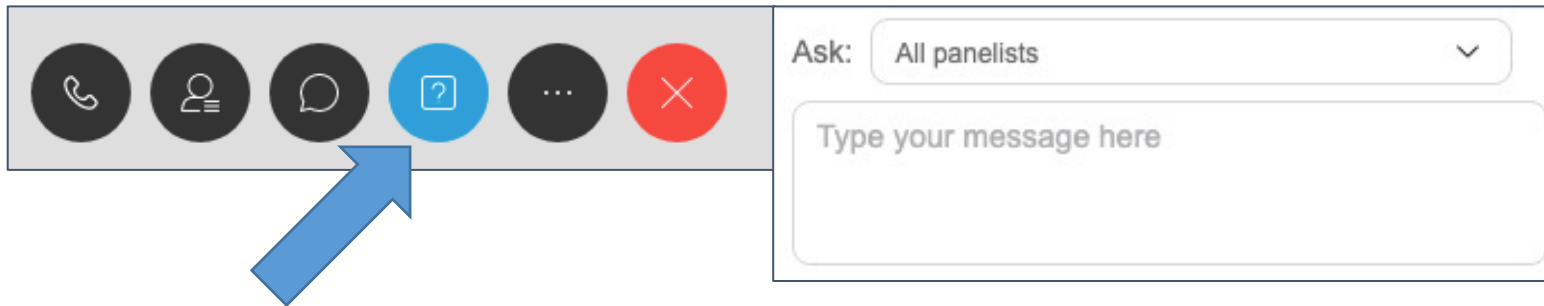
DOH Medicaid Update: [https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/update/main.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/update/main.htm)



MRT LISTSERV: [https://health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/redesign/listserv.htm](https://health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/listserv.htm)

# Questions?

- *Please submit your questions to All Panelists using the Q&A panel of Webex.*
- *It is also helpful to categorize your question. For example: “I have a question about enrollment...” or “I have a question about drug coverage...”*



*Thank you for being patient while we review your questions. Visit the transition website for [Frequently Asked Questions](#).*