NEW YORK
state department of
HEALTH

Nirav R. Shah, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

Sue Kelly
Executive Deputy Commissioner

March 25, 2013

Mr. Michael Melendez
Associate Regional Administrator
Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
New York Regional Office
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations
26 Federal Plaza - Room 37-100 North
New York, New York 10278

RE: SPA #13-03
Non-Institutional Services

Dear Mr. Melendez:

The State requests approval of the enclosed amendment #13-03 to the Title XIX (Medicaid) State Plan for non-institutional services to be effective January 1, 2013 (Appendix I). This amendment is being submitted based on recommendations from the Medicaid Redesign Team, specifically the Health Workforce Subgroup. A summary of the plan amendment is provided in Appendix II.

The State of New York reimburses these services through the use of rates that are consistent with and promote efficiency, economy, and quality of care and are sufficient to enlist enough providers so that care and services are available under the plan at least to the extent that such care and services are available to the general population in the geographic area as required by §1902(a)(30) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR §447.204.

A copy of the workgroup's recommendation is enclosed for your information (Appendix III). A copy of the public notice of this plan amendment, which was given in the New York State Register on December 26, 2012, is also enclosed for your information (Appendix IV). In addition, responses to the five standard funding questions are also enclosed (Appendix V).

If you have any questions regarding this State Plan Amendment submission, please do not hesitate to contact John E. Ulberg, Jr., Medicaid Chief Financial Officer, Division of Finance and Rate Setting at (518) 474-6350.

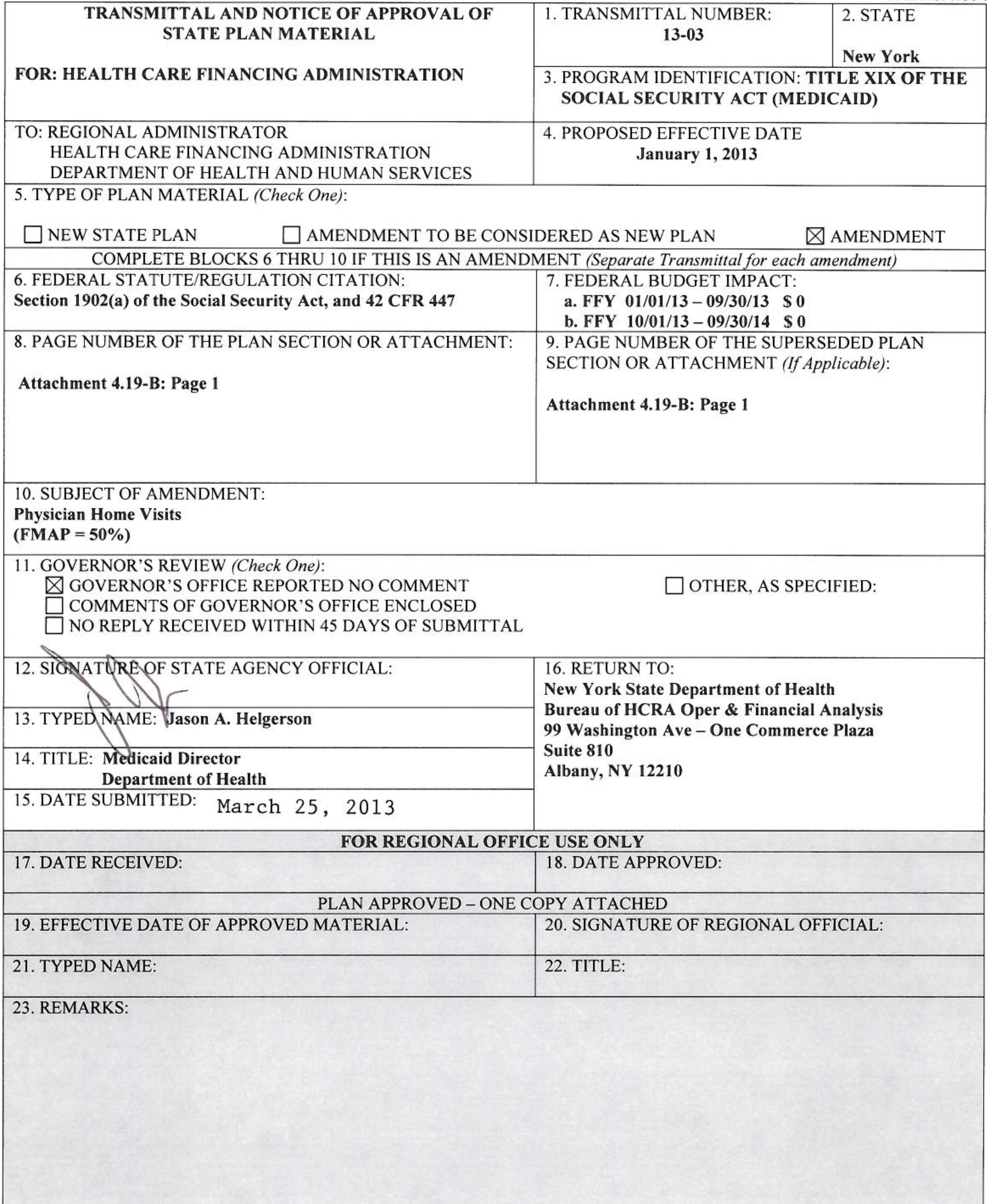
Sincerely,

Jason A. Helgerson
Medicaid Director
Office of Health Insurance Programs

Enclosures

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

FORM APPROVED
OMB NO. 0938-0193



TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL

FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: **13-03**

2. STATE **New York**

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: **TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)**

TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE **January 1, 2013**

5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL *(Check One)*:

☐ NEW STATE PLAN ☐ AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN ☒ AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT *(Separate Transmittal for each amendment)*

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:
Section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act, and 42 CFR 447

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:
a. FFY 01/01/13 – 09/30/13 $ 0
b. FFY 10/01/13 – 09/30/14 $ 0

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 4.19-B: Page 1

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT *(If Applicable)*:

Attachment 4.19-B: Page 1

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT:
Physician Home Visits
(FMAP = 50%)

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW *(Check One)*:
☒ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL
☐ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL:

13. TYPED NAME: **Jason A. Helgerson**

14. TITLE: **Medicaid Director**
Department of Health

15. DATE SUBMITTED: March 25, 2013

16. RETURN TO:
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of HCRA Oper & Financial Analysis
99 Washington Ave – One Commerce Plaza
Suite 810
Albany, NY 12210

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

17. DATE RECEIVED:

18. DATE APPROVED:

PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:

21. TYPED NAME:

22. TITLE:

23. REMARKS:

Appendix I
2013 Title XIX State Plan
First Quarter Amendment
Hospital Inpatient Services
Amended SPA Pages

Physician Services

Fee Schedules are developed by the Department of Health and approved by the Division of the Budget.

For primary care and specialty physicians meeting the eligibility and practice criteria of and enrolled in the HIV Enhanced Fees for Physicians (HIV-EFP) program, and the Preferred Physicians and Children's program (PPAC), fees for visits are based on the Products of Ambulatory Care (PAC) structure: fees are based on recipient diagnosis, service location and visit categories which reflect the average amount of physician time and resources for that level of visit. The PAC fee structure incorporates a regional adjustment for upstate and downstate physicians. Reimbursement for the initial and subsequent prenatal care and postpartum visit for MOMS is based on the Products of Ambulatory Care (PAC) rate structure. Reimbursement for delivery only services and total obstetrical services for physicians enrolled in MOMS is fixed at 90% of the fees paid by private insurers. Ancillary services and procedures performed during a visit must be claimed in accordance with the regular Medicaid fee schedule described in the first paragraph above. HIV-EFP, PPAC and MOMS fees were developed by the Department of Health and approved by the Division of the Budget. For services provided on and after June 1, 2003, a single fee, regionally adjusted (upstate and downstate) and based on program specific average cost per visit shall be established for the HIV-EFP and PPAC programs, respectively, and shall be paid for each visit. Visits for these programs shall be categorized according to the evaluation and management codes within the CPT-4 coding structure.

Effective September 1, 2012, reimbursement will be provided to physicians for breastfeeding health education and counseling services. Physicians must be currently registered and licensed by the State in accordance with 42 CFR 440.60(a) and also International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLC). Date of implementation will occur on the first day of the month following 30 days after Federal approval of this provision of the State Plan.

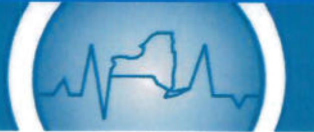
Effective January 1, 2013, reimbursement will be provided to physicians of hospital outpatient departments and free-standing clinics who provide home visit services to chronically ill patients. Physicians must be employed by either the hospital or free-standing clinic and acting at the direction of that provider.

Appendix II
2013 Title XIX State Plan
First Quarter Amendment
Hospital Inpatient Services
Summary

SUMMARY
SPA #13-03

This State Plan Amendment proposes to allow physicians to treat patients in the patient's own home, or nursing home facility, rather than in a certified Article 28 hospital outpatient clinic or emergency room and free standing clinics. The amendment would create a separate rate for physicians who provide treatment to chronically ill patients in the patient's home or nursing facility. The services provided would not be billed as home health services, but rather would be considered as a service similar to the treatments provided in traditional office visits. The opportunity to treat patient in their own home allows physicians to treat chronically ill and home bound patients more effectively and efficiently. Creating a rate for home visits will simultaneously improve the quality of patient care, while reducing the costs billed to Medicaid. Chronically ill patients will have better access to medical care from their physician, without unnecessary and detrimental travel to the hospital. As a result, Medicaid will see a reduction in costs related to ambulance transportation, Emergency Department expenses and inpatient administration expenses. Distress caused by a chronically ill patient travelling to a physician also perpetuates a cycle in which appointments are often cancelled, resulting in an increase in emergency visits and inpatient admissions, and their associated costs to Medicaid, as patient conditions worsen. By creating a rate and allowing for physicians to treat patients in their homes Medicaid can avoid incurring unnecessary costs on a visit by visit basis as well as the compounding health and financial effects of multiple missed visits on a chronically ill patient.

Appendix III
2013 Title XIX State Plan
First Quarter Amendment
Hospital Inpatient Services
Authorizing Provisions



Medicaid Redesign Team
Workforce Flexibility / Scope of Practice Workgroup
Final Recommendations - 11/21/11

Recommendation Number: 7 (Formerly PIR 8L 38)

Recommendation Short Name: Enable physician home visits

Program Area: Acute care

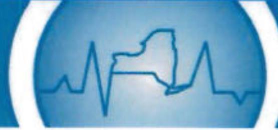
Implementation Complexity: In light of the FQHC (Article 28 licensed D&TC) and Article 31 OMH licensed clinic precedents, it would be reasonable , and likely accomplished through Medicaid reimbursement policy amendment, to allow all Article 28 licensed hospitals and D&TCs to provide practitioner home visits services to chronically ill, homebound Medicaid patients.

Implementation Timeline: Short term

Required Approvals:	☑ **Administrative Action**	☐ **Statutory Change**
	☐ **State Plan Amendment**	☐ **Federal Waiver**

Proposal Description: Physicians employed by Article 28 licensed hospitals are prohibited from providing services to patients in their homes (including those residing in a nursing home) because of facility licensure restrictions, Medicaid payment rules, and potential malpractice coverage issues that result.

As more physicians, PAs and NPs out of necessity become employed at Article 28 facilities, a mechanism needs to be developed to allow them to treat patients in the patients' homes, including patients who live in nursing homes. These are not home health services but are akin to physician office visits conducted where the patient lives in order to avoid costly ambulance, ED expenses, and inpatient admission expenses. Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are licensed as Article 28 facilities and are permitted to provide home visits to their patients. The mechanism that was used to allow for this should be applied to allow other Article 28s the same capability. FQHC patient populations are a very high proportion of Medicaid patients, including many chronically ill and some homebound patients. Article 28 hospitals and diagnostic and treatment centers also treat a high proportion of Medicaid patients with the same characteristics as those served by FQHCs, but are presently precluded from providing practitioner home visits services. As more physicians in community practice become employed by Article 28 facilities, home visits cease. As a result, homebound chronically ill Medicaid patients must be transported to certified Article 28 locations for care. This is both a hardship to the patient and an expense to Medicaid, but more importantly, appointments are not kept resulting in an increase in ambulance transports to EDs and inpatient admissions, as patient conditions worsen. These circumstances are particularly true in rural and underserved urban areas, where access is limited to a few providers who care for Medicaid patients. In further support, clinics licensed by the State Office of Mental Health (OMH) pursuant to Article 31 of the Mental Hygiene Law have recently been authorized to conduct practitioner home visits.



Financial Impact: While difficult to quantify a savings amount associated with authorizing practitioner home visits to chronically ill, homebound Medicaid patients, there is clear savings by encouraging and reimbursing such visits compared to ambulance transport, ED visits, and inpatient hospital admissions paid for by Medicaid. In fact, even at a lesser magnitude, there are savings compared to transporting Medicaid patients to and from clinic visits. Once authorized, and as the practice of conducting home visits grows, the savings to Medicaid will increase. A rate would need to be built for this service. The concept has a high potential for savings.

Health Disparities Impact: The Workgroup did not consider impact on disparities.

Benefits of Recommendation: To keep patients healthier, reduce patient transportation expenses, reduce the costs of unnecessary ED visits, inpatient hospitalizations, and prevent readmissions.

Concerns with Recommendation: Would need to deal with possible facility licensure issues and build a rate for these visits.

Impacted Stakeholders: To provide homebound chronically ill Medicaid patients with health care services without the need to transport them to Article 28 facilities. Patients will miss fewer appointments and receive better care resulting in less ED visits and fewer hospitalizations.

Appendix IV
2013 Title XIX State Plan
First Quarter Amendment
Hospital Inpatient Services
Public Notice

- Extends effective beginning April 1, 2013 and for each state fiscal year thereafter, Intergovernmental Transfer Payments to eligible major public general hospitals run by counties and the State of New York.

There is no additional estimated annual change to gross Medicaid expenditures attributable to this initiative for state fiscal year 2013/14.

- Effective beginning April 1, 2013 and for state fiscal years thereafter, the supplemental upper payment limit payments made to general hospitals, other than major public general hospitals, increases to $339 million annually.

The estimated annual net aggregate increase in gross Medicaid expenditures attributable to this initiative contained in the budget for state fiscal year 2013/2014 is $25 million.

Long Term Care Services

- Effective with the 2013 rate year, the Department of Health will implement quality measures and benchmarks and against those parameters make payments related to the implementation of a Quality Pool for non-specialty residential health care facilities (i.e., non-specialty nursing homes). The quality measures and benchmarks used to score and measure nursing home quality will include the following three categories.

1) Quality MDS Measures - will be calculated using data from MDS 3.0 data, New York State employee flu vaccination data, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) 5-Star staffing measure;

2) Compliance Measures - will be calculated using data from the CMS' 5-Star Rating for health inspections, the timely filing of certified nursing home cost reports, and the timely filing of employee flu immunization data; and

3) Avoidable hospitalizations - will be calculated using MDS 3.0 data, and will be based upon a potentially preventable hospitalization quality indicator for short and long stay hospitalizations.

The scores will be based upon performance in the current year (as defined by the measures and the time period for which data is available) and improvements from the prior year. Certain nursing homes, including those which receive a survey outcome of immediate jeopardy, or substandard quality of care, a J, K, or L deficiency will be not be eligible for quality payments. Funding for the quality payments will be made from a redistribution of existing resources paid through the nursing home pricing methodology to non-specialty nursing homes, and as a result, the Quality Pool will not have an impact on annual gross Medicaid expenditures.

Non-Institutional Services

- Effective January 1, 2013, the State will be adding a new reimbursement methodology for providers who are participating in a Medicaid program integrating the delivery of physical and behavioral health services at a single clinic site.

The goal of this program is to improve the quality and coordination of care provided to individuals who have multiple physical and behavioral health needs. Presently, individuals with serious mental illness and/or addictions often receive regular care in specialized behavioral health settings. The specific clinic site in which these services are provided is licensed to provide such services by the Office of Mental Health (OMH) or the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) and is not licensed or authorized to provide physical/medical care under Article 28 of the Public Health Law. Patients receiving treatment in these clinics may therefore forgo primary care or, when they do receive physical/medical health care from an Article 28 Department of Health (DOH) certified clinic, the DOH certified clinic site is separate and distinct from the behavioral health clinic site. This leads to fragmented care, poorer health outcomes, and higher rates of emergency room and inpatient services. The goal of this program is to facilitate and promote the availability of both physical and behavioral health services at the site where that individual receives their regular care. For example, if an individual receives regular care in a mental health or substance abuse clinic, that clinic will now be authorized to provide both the physical/medical as well as behavioral health services required by that individual.

A number of steps will be undertaken by DOH, OMH and OASAS to facilitate and streamline this health care delivery model. DOH, OMH and OASAS will work together to:

- Provide an efficient approval process to add new services to a site that is not licensed for those services;
- Establish a single set of administrative standards and survey process under which providers will operate and be monitored; and
- Provide single state agency oversight of compliance with administrative standards for providers offering multiple services at a single site.

To insure quality and coordination of care provided to people with multiple needs, DOH, OMH and OASAS will:

- Ensure appropriate compliance with applicable federal and State requirements for confidentiality of records;
- Work with providers to ensure optimal use of clinical resources jointly developed by OASAS and OMH that support evidence based approaches to integrated dual disorders treatment; and
- Provide an opportunity for optimal clinical care provided in a single setting creating cost efficiencies and promoting quality of care.

Providers eligible to participate in the program include those with two or more licenses at different physical locations, providers who have co-located clinics (i.e., two separately licensed clinics that operate in the same physical location) and providers who are licensed by one State agency but choose to provide an array of services that would fall under the license or certification of another State agency.

Participating providers will be paid through the Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) reimbursement methodology when offering integrated services at an authorized clinic site. Recognizing that integration of physical and behavioral services may result in lower clinic patient billing volume, OMH and OASAS providers will have their APG payment blend accelerated so that they will now receive a 100% calculated APG payment instead of a blended payment - 25% or 50% of existing payment for blend/75% or 50% of APG payment (Note: DOH clinics are already receiving 100% APG payment with no blend). Additionally, the overall APG calculated payment for all providers will be increased by 5%.

The DOH projects that the new payment methodology will be cost neutral.

- The Ambulatory Patient Group (APG) reimbursement methodology is revised to include recalculated weights that will become effective on or after January 1, 2013.

There is no estimated annual change to gross Medicaid expenditures attributable to this initiative in state fiscal year 2013/14.

- Effective January 1, 2013, Medicaid will provide reimbursement to hospital and diagnostic and treatment center physicians for providing home visits to chronically ill patients.

There is no additional estimated annual change to gross Medicaid expenditures attributable to this initiative for state fiscal year 2013/14.

Pharmacy

- The Department of Health proposes to remove coverage of benzodiazepines as well as barbiturates used in the treatment of epilepsy, cancer, or a chronic mental health disorder for dually eligible beneficiaries, effective January 1, 2013.

Section 175 of the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA) amended section 1860D-2(e)(2)(A) of the Act to include barbiturates "used in the treatment of epilepsy, cancer, or a chronic mental health disorder" and benzodiazepines in Part D drug coverage, effective as of January 1, 2013. Currently, barbiturates and benzodiazepines are among the excluded drugs covered for all Medicaid beneficiaries.

Since the coverage of barbiturates under Part D is limited to the treatment of epilepsy, cancer or a chronic mental health disorders, New York State (NYS) proposes to continue to cover barbiturates for conditions other than the three covered by Part D. The coverage of benzodiazepines under Part D is inclusive of all indications, so NYS proposes to provide coverage for only non-dually eligible beneficiaries.

Appendix V
2013 Title XIX State Plan
First Quarter Amendment
Hospital Inpatient Services
Responses to Standard Funding Questions

NON-INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES
State Plan Amendment #13-03

CMS Standard Funding Questions

The following questions are being asked and should be answered in relation to all payments made to all providers reimbursed pursuant to a methodology described in Attachment 4.19-B of this SPA. For SPAs that provide for changes to payments for clinic or outpatient hospital services or for enhanced or supplemental payments to physician or other practitioners, the questions must be answered for all payments made under the state plan for such service.

1. **Section 1903(a)(1) provides that Federal matching funds are only available for expenditures made by States for services under the approved State plan. Do providers receive and retain the total Medicaid expenditures claimed by the State (includes normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced payments, other) or is any portion of the payments returned to the State, local governmental entity, or any other intermediary organization? If providers are required to return any portion of payments, please provide a full description of the repayment process. Include in your response a full description of the methodology for the return of any of the payments, a complete listing of providers that return a portion of their payments, the amount or percentage of payments that are returned and the disposition and use of the funds once they are returned to the State (i.e., general fund, medical services account, etc.).**

   Response: Providers do retain the payments made pursuant to this amendment. However, this requirement in no way prohibits the public provider, including county providers, from reimbursing the sponsoring local government for appropriate expenses incurred by the local government on behalf of the public provider. The State does not regulate the financial relationships that exist between public health care providers and their sponsoring governments, which are extremely varied and complex. Local governments may provide direct and/or indirect monetary subsidies to their public providers to cover on-going unreimbursed operational expenses and assure achievement of their mission as primary safety net providers. Examples of appropriate expenses may include payments to the local government which include reimbursement for debt service paid on a provider's behalf, reimbursement for Medicare Part B premiums paid for a provider's retirees, reimbursement for contractually required health benefit fund payments made on a provider's behalf, and payment for overhead expenses as allocated per federal Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87 regarding Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments. The existence of such transfers should in no way negate the legitimacy of these facilities' Medicaid payments or result in reduced Medicaid federal financial participation for the State. This position was further supported by CMS in review and approval of SPA 07-07C when an on-site audit of these transactions for New York City's Health and Hospitals Corporation was completed with satisfactory results.

2. **Section 1902(a)(2) provides that the lack of adequate funds from local sources will not result in lowering the amount, duration, scope, or quality of care and services available under the plan. Please describe how the state share of each type of Medicaid payment (normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced, other) is funded. Please describe whether the state share is from appropriations from the legislature to the Medicaid agency, through intergovernmental transfer agreements (IGTs), certified public expenditures (CPEs), provider taxes, or any other mechanism used by the state to provide state share. Note that, if the appropriation is not to the Medicaid agency, the source of the state share would necessarily be derived through either through an IGT or CPE. In this case, please identify the agency to which the funds are appropriated. Please provide an estimate of total expenditure and State share amounts for each type of Medicaid payment. If any of the non-federal share is being provided using IGTs or CPEs, please fully describe the matching arrangement including when the state agency receives the transferred amounts from the local governmental entity transferring the funds. If CPEs are used, please describe the methodology used by the state to verify that the total expenditures being certified are eligible for Federal matching funds in accordance with 42 CFR 433.51(b). For any payment funded by CPEs or IGTs, please provide the following:**
   - **(i) a complete list of the names of entities transferring or certifying funds;**
   - **(ii) the operational nature of the entity (state, county, city, other);**
   - **(iii) the total amounts transferred or certified by each entity;**
   - **(iv) clarify whether the certifying or transferring entity has general taxing authority: and,**
   - **(v) whether the certifying or transferring entity received appropriations (identify level of appropriations).**

   Response: Payments made to service providers under the provisions of this SPA are funded through a general appropriation received by the State agency that oversees medical assistance (Medicaid), which is the Department of Health. The source of the appropriation is the Local Assistance Account under the General Fund/Aid to Localities.

3. **Section 1902(a)(30) requires that payments for services be consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care. Section 1903(a)(1) provides for Federal financial participation to States for expenditures for services under an approved State plan. If supplemental or enhanced payments are made, please provide the total amount for each type of supplemental or enhanced payment made to each provider type.**

   Response: The payments authorized for this provision are not supplemental or enhanced payments.

4. **For clinic or outpatient hospital services please provide a detailed description of the methodology used by the state to estimate the upper payment limit (UPL) for each class of providers (State owned or operated,**

non-state government owned or operated, and privately owned or operated). Please provide a current (i.e., applicable to the current rate year) UPL demonstration.

<u>Response:</u> Based on guidance from CMS, the State and CMS staff will engage in discussions to develop a strategic plan to complete the UPL demonstration for 2012.

5. **Does any governmental provider receive payments that in the aggregate (normal per diem, supplemental, enhanced, other) exceed their reasonable costs of providing services? If payments exceed the cost of services, do you recoup the excess and return the Federal share of the excess to CMS on the quarterly expenditure report?**

   <u>Response:</u> The rate methodology included in the State Plan for physicians is a fee for service methodology based on the applicable Medicaid fee schedule. We are unaware of any requirement under current federal law or regulation that limits individual providers' payments to their actual costs.

<u>ACA Assurances</u>:

1. **<u>Maintenance of Effort (MOE).</u> Under section 1902(gg) of the Social Security Act (the Act), as amended by the Affordable Care Act, as a condition of receiving <u>any</u> Federal payments under the Medicaid program <u>during the MOE period</u> indicated below, the State shall <u>not</u> have in effect any eligibility standards, methodologies, or procedures in its Medicaid program which are more restrictive than such eligibility provisions as in effect in its Medicaid program on March 10, 2010.**

   <u>MOE Period.</u>
   - **<u>Begins on:</u> March 10, 2010, and**
   - **<u>Ends on:</u> The date the Secretary of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services determines an Exchange established by a State under the provisions of section 1311 of the Affordable Care Act is fully operational.**

   <u>Response:</u> This SPA complies with the conditions of the MOE provision of section 1902(gg) of the Act for continued funding under the Medicaid program.

2. **Section 1905(y) and (z) of the Act provides for increased FMAPs for expenditures made on or after January 1, 2014 for individuals determined eligible under section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the Act. Under section 1905(cc) of the Act, the increased FMAP under sections 1905(y) and (z) would not be available for States that require local political subdivisions to contribute amounts toward the non-Federal share of the State's expenditures at a greater percentage than would have been required on December 31, 2009.**

   <u>Prior to January 1, 2014</u> States may potentially require contributions by local political subdivisions toward the non-Federal share of the States'

expenditures at percentages greater than were required on December 31, 2009. However, because of the provisions of section 1905(cc) of the Act, it is important to determine and document/flag any SPAs/State plans which have such greater percentages prior to the January 1, 2014 date in order to anticipate potential violations and/or appropriate corrective actions by the States and the Federal government.

Response: This SPA would [ ] / would not [✓] violate these provisions, if they remained in effect on or after January 1, 2014.

3. **Please indicate whether the State is currently in conformance with the requirements of section 1902(a)(37) of the Act regarding prompt payment of claims.**

Response: This SPA does comply with the requirements of section 1902(a)(37) of the Act regarding prompt payment of claims.

Tribal Assurance:

Section 1902(a)(73) of the Social Security Act the Act requires a State in which one or more Indian Health Programs or Urban Indian Organizations furnish health care services to establish a process for the State Medicaid agency to seek advice on a regular ongoing basis from designees of Indian health programs whether operated by the Indian Health Service HIS Tribes or Tribal organizations under the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act ISDEAA or Urban Indian Organizations under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

IHCIA Section 2107(e)(I) of the Act was also amended to apply these requirements to the Children's Health Insurance Program CHIP. Consultation is required concerning Medicaid and CHIP matters having a direct impact on Indian health programs and Urban Indian organizations.

a) **Please describe the process the State uses to seek advice on a regular ongoing basis from federally recognized tribes Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations on matters related to Medicaid and CHIP programs and for consultation on State Plan Amendments waiver proposals waiver extensions waiver amendments waiver renewals and proposals for demonstration projects prior to submission to CMS.**
b) **Please include information about the frequency inclusiveness and process for seeking such advice.**
c) **Please describe the consultation process that occurred specifically for the development and submission of this State Plan Amendment when it occurred and who was involved.**

Response: Tribal consultation was performed in accordance with the State's tribal consultation policy as approved in SPA 11-06, and documentation of such will be forwarded to CMS. To date, no feedback has been received from any tribal representative in response to the proposed change in this SPA.