

NewYork-Presbyterian Community Health Plan

PROVIDER ALERT

-- May 2006

*** REMINDER ***

Apply for Your HIPAA Mandated National Provider Identifier (NPI)

In 2005, The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the availability of the National Provider Identifier (NPI) which will be the single provider identifier eventually replacing various provider identifiers you currently use for each health plan you participate with. This identifier implements a requirement of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), and must be used by most HIPAA covered entities such as NewYork-Presbyterian Community Health Plan (NYPCHP). All health care providers who conduct any of the HIPAA standard transactions **must** obtain for use NPI's prior to 5/23/07.

The NPI is one of the steps that CMS is taking to improve electronic transactions for health care. With national standards and identifiers in place for electronic claims and other transactions, health care providers will be able to submit transactions to any health plan in the United States. These national standards will make electronic data interchange possible and a better alternative to paper processing for both providers and NYPCHP.

There are two (2) ways to apply for an NPI number:

- Apply over the Web: <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>
- Fill out a paper application and mail it to the NPI Enumerator: 1-800-465-3203

For questions from providers about your NPI applications:

- Phone: 1-800-465-3203
- Email: Customerservice@npienumerator.com
- Mail: NPI Enumerator
P.O. Box 6059
Fargo, ND 58108-6059

Upon receipt of your NPI number, **remember to submit it to NYPCHP** by calling your Provider Relations Representative or Provider Services at 212-297-5510. It may also be faxed to 212-585-6634. Thank you for your cooperation.