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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** RHCF Members

**FROM:** Patrick Cucinelli, Senior Financial Policy Analyst

**DATE:** December 9, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Release of 2009 Medicaid Rates

**ROUTE TO:** Administrator, CFO

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ABSTRACT: DOH posts 2009 RHCF Medicaid rates on HPN.

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008 [NYAHS Doc. ID # N00002971](#) advised members that the initial 2009 Medicaid RHCF rate sheets were due to be posted on the [Health Provider Network \(HPN\)](#) sometime this week. NYAHS has confirmed that the rates were posted late yesterday along with a detailed Dear Administrator Letter (DAL) on the HPN.

A copy of the DAL only is also available on the NYAHS Web site by [clicking here](#). Providers should be certain to carefully review the DAL for a detailed explanation of the new rate calculations and important dates relative to filing any appeals. As noted in prior NYAHS guidance, the Department of Health is no longer issuing paper rate packets. To access your rate packet, providers must download an electronic version from the HPN by going to: <https://commerce.health.state.ny.us/hpn>, and:

- Enter your HPN User ID and Password, then click “Login”;
- Click on “Programs”;
- Click on “Division of Health Care Financing” under the heading “Office of Health Insurance Programs”; and
- Under the heading “Nursing Homes” click on “Nursing Home Rate Reports”.

### JATF Hosting Free Webinar to Review 2009 Rates

The new 2009 rates are based on an updated system base year of 2002 and are computed using the reimbursement methodology enacted into law in 2006. The new rate sheets provide detailed calculations but are organized quite differently than previously. To assist members to fully

interpret the new rate sheets, the associations of the Joint Association Task Force (NYAHSA, HANYS and NYSHFA) are sponsoring a Webinar that will feature a walk through of the new rate sheets by DOH staff.

This free Webinar will be held at **2 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2008**. To register, [click here](#) and enter the requested information (name, address, facility).

Registrants will receive a confirmation e-mail containing the dial in phone number and code along with the Web address. Participants will need to log into the Web site to view the visual presentation as well as dial in by phone to hear the audio.

Following the rate walk through, DOH will answer questions as time permits. Members will be able to submit questions through the Web during the Webinar or may e-mail them by noon on Wednesday to Darius Kirstein at: [dkirstein@nyahsa.org](mailto:dkirstein@nyahsa.org). Please enter "Webinar Question" in the subject line.

### **CFO Regional Council Meetings**

NYAHSA hosted the first in a series of Regional CFO Council meetings focused on the new rate sheets in Saratoga last week. Two additional meetings are scheduled as follows:

- [Upstate West – December 12<sup>th</sup> \(revised date\) at 9:30 am at the Steamboat Landing Restaurant in Canadaigua.](#)
- [Downstate – December 15<sup>th</sup> \(revised date\) at 1:00 pm at Saints Joachim and Anne Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Brooklyn.](#)

Please click on the meeting location you are interested in for more details or contact Patrick Cucinelli at [pcucinelli@nyahsa.org](mailto:pcucinelli@nyahsa.org) or call ext. 145. Members attending the CFO Council meetings are encouraged to bring their rate sheets for review.

### **Conclusion**

The DAL is approximately 20 pages long and this reflects the complexity of the changes being implemented with these initial 2009 rates. Again, it is important for providers to carefully review these changes. It is also critical for providers to understand that certain items that appear on these initial rate sheets will be subject to subsequent updates.

NYAHSA will keep members apprised of developments in this area and issue an updated Medicaid Interactive Rate Template (MIRT) when the necessary key figures are received from DOH. NYAHSA is also working on a template that members will be able to use to quantify the effect of the impending change to a Medicaid-only case mix index beginning April 1, 2009. Please contact either Darius Kirstein or Patrick Cucinelli with any additional questions.