



# Neighborhood Health Plan™

## Notice to all MassHealth Members

### **Amendment to Neighborhood Health Plan (NHP) coverage effective October 1, 2011**

This document represents a revision to your NHP *MassHealth Member Handbook* and *NHP Covered Services* booklet.

#### **PHARMACY BENEFIT CHANGE**

**Effective October 1, 2011, the pharmacy co-pays for generic drugs and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs and brand name medications are going up. A co-pay is what you pay for every prescription you get.**

- Co-pays for drugs that currently are \$3 will go up to \$3.65. This will apply for:
  - both first-time prescriptions and refills for other generic drugs and OTC drugs covered by NHP
  - brand-name drugs covered by NHP
  - drugs purchased using the Access90 program
- Co-pays will continue to be \$1 for both first-time prescriptions and refills for each generic drug and OTC drug covered by NHP in the following drug classes:
  - antihyperglycemics (medications for diabetes), including metformin and glyburide
  - antihypertensives (medications for high blood pressure), including atenolol and lisinopril
  - antihyperlipidemics (medications for high cholesterol), including simvastatin and lovastatin

NHP plan members have the same pharmacy co-pay and cap as all other MassHealth members. To find the co-payment for your medicine, visit the Member section of the NHP website, [www.nhp.org](http://www.nhp.org), and use the *NHP Drug Look-up*.

If you cannot pay a co-pay at the time of service, your pharmacy must still give you the medicine. But, your pharmacy can bill you later for the co-pay. You should not go without the medicine you need because you cannot afford the co-pay now.

#### **You will not have to pay a co-payment if you are:**

- under 19 years old;
- pregnant or your pregnancy ended within 60 days of the service (You must let the pharmacist know if this applies to you);
- an inpatient in an acute hospital, nursing facility, chronic-disease or rehabilitation hospital, or intermediate-care facility for the developmentally delayed, or are admitted to a hospital from such a facility;
- getting hospice care;
- enrolled in MassHealth because you were in the care and custody of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) when you turned 18, and your MassHealth coverage was continued;
- a Native American or Alaska Native from a federally recognized tribe;
- you have reached your annual pharmacy co-pay cap.

#### **You also do not have to pay a co-payment for:**

- most family-planning services and supplies.

If your pharmacy charges a co-pay and you do not think you have to pay, be sure to tell him or her.

The cap on the amount of co-pays members (age 19 and older) must pay will stay at \$200 for calendar year 2011. But, in calendar year 2012, the cap on the amount of co-pays will go up to \$250. Please refer to your Member Handbook, pages 18-19, for more details on co-pay caps.

Keep using your NHP ID card. No new cards are being sent at this time. Your pharmacy will know to charge the new co-pay amount. If you have any questions about this notice, or your health coverage, call the NHP Customer Care Center at 1-800-462-5449 (TTY 1-800-655-1761), Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Thursdays 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thank you for choosing Neighborhood Health Plan.

Sincerely,

Paul Mendis, M.D.  
Chief Medical Officer

