



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

NEWSLETTER

Volume 7

No. 30

June 1997

TO: All Providers

SUBJECT: Sale of the Garden State Health Plan in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 1997

BACKGROUND: In accordance with the Appropriations Act of 1997, P.L. 1996, c. 42, the Treasurer was authorized to take necessary action to effectuate the sale of the Garden State Health Plan (GSHP). Therefore, effective July 1, 1997, the State of New Jersey is selling the operations of the GSHP in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties. This is in addition to the sale in the five (5) counties (Camden, Essex, Hudson, Passaic and Union) effective as of June 1, 1996, announced via Newsletter Vol. 6 No. 14; the three (3) counties (Bergen, Middlesex and Monmouth), effective February 1, 1997, announced via Newsletter Vol. 7, No.4; and the one (1) county (Mercer), effective June 1, 1997, announced via Newsletter Vol. 7, No. 24.

The purchaser of GSHP is Managed Healthcare Systems of New Jersey, Inc. (MHS), a licensed Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) approved to service Medicaid eligibles in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties.

ACTION: Effective July 1, 1997, enrollees who reside in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties will no longer be enrolled in the GSHP.

It is important for providers to carefully check the monthly Medicaid eligibility card or on-line eligibility systems to confirm HMO enrollment for former GSHP enrollees. Examination of the Medicaid eligibility card or query to on-line eligibility systems will indicate the proper HMO enrollment status of affected clients.

There may still be clients, however, who reside in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties who carry a Garden State Health Plan "gold" membership card. Therefore, it is important to note that except in the circumstances discussed below, claims for services provided on or after July 1, 1997 to former GSHP enrollees in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties will NOT be honored. GSHP will remain responsible for claims for services rendered to members in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties prior to July 1, 1997.

For GSHP enrollees in Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Morris, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren Counties who are in the hospital as of July 1, 1997, GSHP will be responsible for coverage of the hospital claim. GSHP will also be responsible for physician services associated with the hospitalization. Providers should follow the regular GSHP billing procedures.

For those beneficiaries who will now be enrolled in MHS, benefits are in accordance with MHS plan requirements and, except for hospital inpatient services described above, services must be provided through the MHS network. MHS can be reached at 1-888-DOC-DENT (1-888-362-3368).

If you have any questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact the GSHP Hotline at 1-800-525-0047, or the GSHP at 1-609-588-3580.

**RETAIN THIS NEWSLETTER NUMERICALLY BEHIND THE NEWSLETTER TAB
(BLUE TAB MARKED "5")**