

NEWS RELEASE

41 State Street • Suite 900 Albany, NY 12207-518.462.2293 www.nyhpa.org FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 30, 2021

CONTACT: Leslie S. Moran 518.462.2293 (cell) 518.588.6655

NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON EXECUTIVE ORDER SUSPENDING HEALTH PLAN REVIEW PROCESSES

Statement from HPA President and CEO Eric Linzer

"Throughout this public health crisis, health plans have been consistent, reliable partners, working with the state and others in the health care system to combat the pandemic and ensure that New Yorkers get the care they need.

"While we remain committed to working with the Governor and her Administration to stop the spread of the Delta variant and get more residents vaccinated, we are concerned with the impact that provisions in Executive Order 4 suspending health plans' review processes will have on patient care. These processes ensure the services that patients receive are safe, effective and coordinated and protect them from inappropriate and potentially harmful medical procedures.

"It will be critical that the State monitor that hospitals actually deploy personnel for patient care and resume review processes as soon as staffing issues are addressed in order to preserve the availability of affordable, quality health coverage for New York employers and consumers."

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The New York Health Plan Association represents 28 managed care health plans that provide comprehensive health care services to more than 8 million New Yorkers.