

Nirav R. Shah, M.D., M.P.H. Commissioner Sue Kelly Executive Deputy Commissioner

## **Change in Coverage of Barbiturates for Dual Eligible Population**

Effective <u>January 1, 2014</u>, Medicare Part D prescription drug plans and MA-PD plans will be required to cover barbiturates for ALL medically accepted indications.

Only drugs that are excluded by law from being covered by the Medicare Part D plans, such as certain prescription vitamins and over-the-counter drugs, are covered by NYS Medicaid for dual eligibles (Medicare/Medicaid). As a result, effective January 1, 2014, NYS Medicaid will no longer provide dual eligibles with coverage of barbiturates.

NYS Medicaid continues to cover barbiturates for NYS Medicaid beneficiaries who are <u>not</u> Medicare eligible.