

# Urgent Rx

(THN supported)

## Urgent Rx Prescription Voucher Program Summary Report

February 2006 – December 2007

### Usage at All Sites for 2006\* and 2007

(\*Urgent Rx implemented February 1, 2006)

Location	Vouchers Issued		Prescriptions Filled		Cost of Prescriptions		Average Price/Rx		Average # Rxs/Voucher	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Convenient Care Center at Ithaca	461	649	801	1,139	\$13,252	\$19,536	\$17	\$17	1.7	1.8
Emergency Department	177	335	325	611	\$5,450	\$10,539	\$17	\$17	1.8	1.8
Inpatient Unit Discharges*	n/a	9	n/a	16	n/a	\$302	n/a	\$19	n/a	1.8
Ithaca Free Clinic*	n/a	21	n/a	27	n/a	\$471	n/a	\$17	n/a	1.3
<b>Totals/Averages: each year</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>1,793</b>	<b>\$18,702</b>	<b>\$30,848</b>	<b>\$17</b>	<b>\$17</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>
<b>Totals: both years</b>	<b>1,652</b>		<b>2,919</b>		<b>\$49,550</b>					

\* Urgent Rx not operational at Inpatient Units and Ithaca Free Clinic until August 2007

### COST BREAKDOWN

2006 – 7	Total Prescriptions	\$0-10	\$11-20	\$21-40	\$41-60	\$60+
		<b>2,919</b>	<b>1,504</b> (52%)	<b>636</b> (22%)	<b>531</b> (18%)	<b>92</b> (3%)

### Urgent Rx Client AGES (for program to date):

Age Group	# of Clients	% of Clients
<b>0-18</b>	144	11 %
<b>19-30</b>	614	48 %
<b>31-40</b>	262	20%
<b>41-50</b>	147	11%
<b>51-64</b>	110	9 %
<b>65+</b>	8	1 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>100 %</b>

**WHERE Urgent Rx clients filled their prescriptions:**

Kinney Store Location	# Rxs filled in 2006	Percentage	# Rxs filled in 2007	Percentage
Northside	745	66%	1,163	65%
Dryden	219	19%	412	23%
Trumansburg	108	10%	218	12%
Collegetown*	54	5%	n/a	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,793</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Collegetown store closed September 13th, 2006

**DAYS TO FILL:**

	Filled Same Day	Filled Next Day	Filled 2+ Days Later
<b>Totals 2006-7</b>	<b>2,146 (74%)</b>	<b>589 (20%)</b>	<b>183 (6%)</b>

**REPEAT USERS (for the two-year period):**

**80% of Urgent Rx recipients have been one-time users**

14% have used the program twice

3% three times

3% more than three times

**FOLLOW-UP by Human Services Coalition:**

	Vouchers Issued	Completed Surveys	Asked if Employed	Responded YES, Employed	Asked Type of Employment	Responded Full Time	Responded Self-Employed	Responded Part Time/Temporary
<b>2006</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>418 (66%)</b>	<b>203 (49%)*</b>	<b>152 (75%)</b>	<b>32 (21%)</b>	<b>1 (3%)</b>	<b>26 (81%)</b>	<b>5 (16%)</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>577 (57%)</b>	<b>437 (76%)</b>	<b>321 (73%)</b>	<b>159 (50%)</b>	<b>69 (43%)</b>	<b>50 (32%)</b>	<b>40 (25%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,652</b>	<b>995 (60%)</b>	<b>640 (64%)</b>	<b>473 (74%)</b>	<b>191 (43%)</b>	<b>70 (37%)</b>	<b>76 (40%)</b>	<b>45 (23%)</b>

\* Employment questions added to survey formally in July 2007

All Urgent Rx clients, whether reached by phone or not, are mailed a letter and a packet of materials about State health insurance programs and other health care programs and services.

Urgent Rx clients referred to the **Prescription Meds Access Program (PMAP)** at the Human Services Coalition:

- 35 in 2006
- 47 in 2007

# Urgent Rx

## Quotes and Anecdotes from Follow-Up Calls with Clients

Fourth Quarter, October – December 2007

She has applied for Medicaid, and was denied. She makes a few thousand dollars a year too much for Family Health Plus<sup>1</sup>. Health insurance is only available to managers at her job, so she is not eligible. Healthy New York premiums would be far too expensive on her income<sup>2</sup>.

She and her husband own their own store. They make a little too much to qualify for Family Health Plus. They looked into Healthy New York, but the premiums were just too high. She has a herniated disc, but is unable to afford more care without insurance, so she lives with it. “At least my kids are covered by Child Health Plus.”

“It was wonderful. I couldn’t believe that they have something like [Urgent Rx]. The whole reason I wasn’t going to see a doctor was because I knew I’d be prescribed something and I wouldn’t be able to fill it.”

He used to have Healthy New York coverage, but when he made a little more money last year, he lost his eligibility<sup>3</sup>. He is looking for other health insurance options. He spoke to a broker, who referred him to the direct pay options from Excellus. There is no way he can afford the premiums.<sup>4</sup>

She is working three nights a week while finishing graduate school. Insurance is available through her job for \$400/month, which she can’t afford and so didn’t sign up. She was hospitalized in June, and now is facing a \$7,000 bill.

He works as a mechanic at a tire store. He can buy insurance through work for about \$445/month. He makes \$10/hour full-time, so he cannot qualify for Family Health Plus. (Healthy New York is not an option because his company does offer a plan.) Since the company plan would cost roughly 35% of his income, he goes without insurance.

“I was so fortunate to have this program offered to me, because I am between insurances right now. It was wonderful and I really appreciate it.”

She works for a school district (part-time). She cannot afford to buy into the insurance plan offered at work. Although her income would make her eligible, by New York State law she cannot be covered by Family Health Plus because she works for a school district.

“I really appreciate all the help. I couldn’t have afforded those prescriptions.” She is a waitress, and they don’t offer insurance at the restaurant where she works.

1. The income cut-off for Family Health Plus is \$10,400/yr. for a single adult
2. Healthy NY monthly premiums in Tompkins County range from \$122 - \$247
3. The income cut-off for Healthy NY is \$ 26,000/yr. for a single adult
4. Excellus BCBS of CNY monthly premiums for an individual plan are about \$850/month, and about 2,000/per month for a family plan.