



**A Message from Stony Brook University Physicians re : United Healthcare -
Empire Plan (NYSHIP)**

Charles Kentros to: Torre,F.Jason

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To All Faculty & Staff:

We are writing to share with you recent developments regarding United Healthcare's Empire Plan, also known as the New York State Health Insurance Plan. (This letter is not related to letters that you may have received recently regarding Stony Brook University Medical Center's Blue Cross/Blue Shield's contract negotiations.)

The Stony Brook University physicians are currently in discussions with United regarding payment rates for medical services. To date, United has been unresponsive to our repeated requests for a proposal and certain Practices have decided to terminate their participation.

Unless an agreement is reached with United, effective September 2, 2009, the Family Medicine and OB/GYN Practices will no longer participate with United Healthcare's Empire Plan. Effective September 9, 2009, the Anesthesiology Practice will also become non-participating.

This decision was made with great deliberation, and we wish we did not need to take this action. We will continue to talk with United. Our goal is to provide patients and employees with the broadest physician network of participating providers. Unfortunately, if United continues to remain unresponsive, there is a possibility that additional Practices will also terminate.

For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.StonyBrookPhysicians.com> or call us at 631-444-4800.