



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

NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 No. 4

January 2000

- TO:** Providers of Pharmaceutical Services – **For Action**
Physicians, Dentists, Podiatrists, Certified Nurse Practitioners/Clinical Nurse Specialists, Optometrists, Independent Clinics, and Health Maintenance Organizations – **For Information**
- SUBJECT:** (1) **Change in Threshold for the Monthly Prescription Volume Threshold Process (MPTP)**
(2) **Activation of Medical Exception Process (MEP) for Pharmaceutical Inhalers**
- EFFECTIVE:** Claims with service dates on or after January 15, 2000
- PURPOSE:** To notify pharmacies of (1) a change in the threshold for the Monthly Prescription Volume Threshold Process (MPTP); and (2) activation of the MEP for pharmaceutical inhalers
- BACKGROUND:** The Medicaid Newsletters Volume 9, No. 70, and No. 77, dated November 1999, notified pharmacies regarding the Monthly Prescription Volume Threshold Process (MPTP). Pharmacies were informed that the Division would phase-in the MPTP over several months, starting December 1, 1999. Effective December 1, 1999, the MPTP threshold was set at twelve (12) prescriptions. Temporarily, the threshold was raised over the holidays to seventeen (17) prescriptions and then returned to twelve (12) prescriptions on January 1, 2000. Also, the Medicaid Newsletter, Volume 9, No. 67, dated November 1999, informed pharmacists about the Medical Exception Process (MEP) and indicated that the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) would notify pharmacists when the decision was made to activate the maximum daily dosage edit (Edit 535) for pharmacy claims.
- ACTION:** (1) **For pharmacy claims with service dates on or after January 15, 2000**, the MPTP threshold will decrease from twelve (12) to ten (10) prescriptions per calendar month. All other requirements for the MPTP remain unchanged. Please see the Medicaid Newsletter, Volume 9, No. 70, dated November 1999, for additional information concerning the MPTP.

- (2) **For pharmaceutical Inhaler claims with service dates on or after January 15, 2000**, these claims shall be subject to maximum daily dosage standards approved by the State. These DUR standards may be found in the DMAHS/DHSS Newsletter, Volume 9, No. 11, dated August 1999.

Edit 535, "Daily quantity exceeded – 30 day limit applies" will post to claims when these DUR standards are exceeded. For additional information concerning Edit 535 and the MEP, please see the DMAHS/DHSS Newsletter Volume 9, No. 67, dated November 1999.

If you have any questions concerning MEP procedures, please do not hesitate to contact First Health Services at 1-877-888-2939. For questions concerning MEP policy, please do not hesitate to contact the Chief, Pharmaceutical Services, DMAHS, at (609) 588-2724.

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