



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

NEWSLETTER

Volume 16 No. 04

March 2006

**TO: Providers of Pharmaceutical Services, Physicians, Advanced Practice Nurses, Midwives, Independent Clinics, Hospital Outpatient Departments – FOR ACTION
Health Maintenance Organizations – For Information**

SUBJECT: RE-ACTIVATION OF MEDICARE PART D EDITS

PURPOSE: To advise community providers of a decision by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to require State Medicaid Programs to re-activate their editing systems to deny claims for prescription services that should otherwise be billed to the clients' Medicare Prescription Drug Plans (PDP).

BACKGROUND: On January 6, 2006, the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS), deactivated claims processing edits designed to ensure that Medicare Part D was the primary payer for prescription services provided to dual eligible clients (those clients covered by both Medicare and Medicaid).

DMAHS has worked closely with CMS, providers, including the pharmacy community, and with advocates to ensure that our clients receive their prescribed medications. **AT THIS TIME, CMS IS REQUIRING THAT STATES RE-ACTIVATE MEDICARE PART D EDITS BY NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2006.** In order to be compliant with the CMS directive, DMAHS has designed a plan to minimize the impact of this reactivation on both our clients and their providers.

DMAHS remains committed to working with all of you to identify and resolve new or outstanding issues in the weeks and months ahead.

ACTION: REACTIVATION OF THE EDITS WILL RESULT IN DENIAL OF PART D COVERED PRESCRIPTION SERVICES, BY MEDICAID, WHERE MEDICARE PART D IS THE PRIMARY PAYER.

Medicare Part D edits will be reactivated in three (3) stages.

Stage 1: Effective March 14, 2006, the edits will be reactivated for those pharmacies in the Southern region of the State (Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean and Salem Counties).

Stage 2: Effective March 21, 2006, the edits will be reactivated for those pharmacies in the Central region of the State (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Somerset and Union Counties).

Stage 3: Effective March 28, 2006, the edits will be reactivated for those pharmacies in the Northern region of the State (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Passaic, Sussex and Warren Counties). In addition, all clients newly added, those with changes, and deletions, etc. effective in March will be included as of this date.

The six-day emergency supply allowance and the wraparound program have remained in place since January 6, 2006 when the other payments edits were lifted. These programs will remain in place through June 30, 2006 (the expiration of the funding). Information regarding these programs may be found in the NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid Newsletter, Volume 15, No. 17, dated December, 2005.

Please remind the client to contact the prescriber immediately to assure timely submission of exception requests, where required.

Pharmacy providers are reminded to continue to process third party liability claims as described in the fax, entitled *Medicare Part D Payment Responsibilities*, being sent each week from DMAHS.

Questions regarding Medicare Part D coverage should continue to be directed to the CMS pharmacy assistance line at 1-866-835-7595 including coverage questions for clients without proof of PDP assignment.

DMAHS has a directory of prescriber assistance lines at each of the PDPs; these numbers are updated regularly. The contact information, currently on file with DMAHS is, as follows:

<u>PDP Name</u>	<u>Plan Name</u>	<u>Telephone Number</u>
Caremark	SilverScript	1-866-884-9479
Coventry	First Health Premier	1-800-551-2694
HealthNet	HealthNet Orange	1-800-548-5524
Horizon BCBS-NJ	Horizon Medicare Rx	1-800-294-5979
Humana	Humana PDP Standard	1-800-555-2546
PacifiCare	PacifiCare Saver	1-800-711-4555
	PacifiCare Select	
PA Life Ins Co.	Prescription Pathway Bronze	1-800-758-2064
	American Progressive Life	1-800-758-2075
Unicare	Medicare Rx Reward Value	1-800-203-0267
United HealthCare	AARP Medicare Rx Plan	1-888-492-2971
WellCare	WellCare PDP	1-866-800-6111

Please be aware that each PDP has its own exception request, so be sure to reach out to the PDP for guidance.

Clients wishing to contact Medicare should be directed to 1-800-MEDICARE.
Clients wanting to reach the Medicaid Hotline should call 1-800-356-1561.
Medicaid pharmacy staff may be reached at 1-609-588-2732.

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