



TO: Providers of Pharmaceutical Services and
Medical Suppliers

SUBJECT: Medicaid Coverage of the Nutrament Food Supplement

EFFECTIVE: Dates of Service on and after November 1, 1992

BACKGROUND: The New Jersey Medicaid program reimburses providers for medically necessary enteral nutritional supplements which require prior authorization. The General Assistance (GA) program provides coverage for medically necessary enteral nutritional supplements without prior authorization. These enteral nutritional products, which are prescribed for protein replacement, may be administered orally, by nasogastric tube, gastrostomy tube, or needle catheter jejunostomy.

ACTION: This Newsletter is to announce a change in the coverage of the food supplement Nutrament by the Medicaid and GA programs. This food supplement is not categorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a protein nutritional supplement. As a result, the Medicaid program including the Garden State Health Plan and GA program are discontinuing the coverage of this food supplement.

In order to minimize the impact of this change in coverage policy and to allow the recipient the opportunity to consult with his/her physician regarding an alternative food supplement, the Medicaid program including the Garden State Health Plan and GA program will implement this policy change on November 1, 1992 for Nutrament claims submitted for payment.

Nutrament claims with dates of service on and after November 1, 1992 will be denied payment. Prior authorization will not allow payment for these claims.

If you have any questions regarding this Newsletter, please contact Edward J. Vaccaro, R.Ph., Chief Pharmacy Consultant at (609) 588-2724.