

Senior Services News



*A Newsletter Published by the
N.J. Department of Human Services
Division of Aging Services*

Volume 27, No. 02

October 2024

TO: Hospitals, Physicians, Advanced Practice Nurses, Midwives, Independent Clinics, Providers of Pharmaceutical Services – **For Action**
Managed Care Organization – **For Information Only**

SUBJECT: Merck withdrawal from the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) and Senior Gold prescription assistance programs

EFFECTIVE: November 1, 2024

PURPOSE: To notify prescribers and providers of pharmaceutical services of upcoming changes to drug coverage for PAAD and Senior Gold beneficiaries.

BACKGROUND: Merck has terminated their rebate agreements with the PAAD and Senior Gold prescription assistance programs. Under state law, drug products can only be covered by PAAD and Senior Gold if the manufacturer participates in the rebate program. As a result, the PAAD and Senior Gold programs can no longer assist with copays for Merck products, effective **November 1, 2024**.

ACTION: The PAAD and Senior Gold programs can no longer assist with copays for Merck products, effective **November 1, 2024**. Examples of these products are listed below.

Merck Products

Belsomra	Cancidas	Delstrigo	Emend	Invanz
Isentress/Isentress HD	Janumet/Janumet XR	Januvia	Keytruda	Lagevrio
Noxafil	Pifeltro	Prevymis	Primaxin	Recarbrio
Renflexis	Segluromet	Steglatro	Steglujan	Stromectol
Temodar	Tice BCG Live	Verquvo	Welireg	Winrevair
Zepatier	Zinplava	Zolinza		

This change means the PAAD and Senior Gold programs will discontinue coverage of all drugs manufactured under the following labeler codes.

Labeler Code	Labeler Name
00006	Merck
00052	Merck
00085	Merck
11523	Merck

Drugs under the above Labeler codes will receive the following rejection code:
**REJECT CODE = 570 – Drug Not Payable – No State Rebate Agreement (NCPDP
REJECT CODE = AC)**

PAAD and Senior Gold beneficiaries have been notified that these products will no longer be covered by PAAD/Senior Gold as of November 1, 2024. If they continue to utilize Merck products after that date, they will be responsible for the full copay or cost of the medication. Additional copay assistance may be possible by requesting a tier reduction from their primary insurance plan or by contacting the manufacturer patient assistance program. To learn more about the Merck Patient Assistance program, visit www.merckhelps.com or call 1-800-727-5400.

If there are any questions regarding this Newsletter, please contact the PAAD program at 1-800-792-9745.

RETAIN THIS NEWSLETTER FOR REFERENCE