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Newsletter

Volume 9 No. 82

December 1999

TO: Providers of Pharmaceutical Services

SUBJECT: Rescinding of Newsletter Vol. 9, No. 64, dated October 1999:
"Change in Work First New Jersey/General Assistance
(WFNJ/GA) Policy Concerning Coverage and Reimbursement
for HIV/AIDS Drugs"

EFFECTIVE: IMMEDIATELY

PURPOSE: To notify providers of pharmaceutical services to disregard
Newsletter Vol. 9, No. 64, dated October 1999

BACKGROUND: The New Jersey Division of Family Development (DFD) currently provides fee-for-service coverage and reimbursement for all Food and Drug Administration approved legend drugs, protein nutritional supplements, insulin, insulin syringes, diabetic testing materials, certain over-the-counter (OTC) drugs, and pharmaceutical devices provided to eligible WFNJ/GA beneficiaries. Reimbursement is based on the lower of the Average Wholesale Price (AWP) for these drugs, less 10 percent, or the provider's usual and customary charge, plus dispensing fee between \$3.73 and \$4.07.

In October 1999, the Division sent out Newsletter Vol. 9, No. 64, to notify providers of pharmaceutical services of changes in the Work First New Jersey/General Assistance (WFNJ/GA) policy concerning coverage and reimbursement for HIV/AIDS drugs. These changes included: (1) the requirement that GA beneficiaries diagnosed with HIV/AIDS enroll in the AIDS Drug Distribution Program (ADDP) administered by the Division of AIDS Prevention and Control (DOAPC), New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services; and (2) the discontinuation of GA coverage and reimbursement for HIV/AIDS drugs. These changes were originally planned for claims with dates of services on or after January 1, 2000.

ACTION These changes were inadvertently announced prematurely and all providers are being advised to continue to follow current policy concerning the coverage and reimbursement for HIV/AIDS drugs that are provided to eligible WFNJ/GA beneficiaries. Providers will be notified via a separate Newsletter once the policy is finalized and the program implemented.

If you have questions regarding this Newsletter as it relates to the Division's processing of these claims, please do not hesitate to contact the Chief, Pharmaceutical Services, at (609) 588-2724.

If you have any questions regarding the GA/ADDP program, please contact Kathleen Mason, Director of PAAD, DHSS, at (609) 588-7032.

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