

Medicare Modernization Act

DHS MMA Project

Medicare Prescription Drug Checklist for Oregon's Long Term Care Facilities

Now!

- Talk with your residents and their families about the new prescription drug program and what they are going to need to do.
 - Explain the deadlines they are facing for choosing and enrolling in a plan.
 - Explain what they need to consider when choosing a plan such as your preferred pharmacy, formularies, costs and benefits.

Before January 1, 2006

- Find out which plans your preferred pharmacy has contracted with.
- Revise admission policy to include the resident's responsibility for co-pays.
- Send revised policies to existing residents/families, and let families know which plans will work with facility's preferred pharmacy.
- Provide information to Medicare-only residents to help them in deciding whether or not to enroll – and if so, which plan to select. (*See www.medicare.gov*)
- You may need to assist residents who cannot make choices on their own and who don't have a designated party to enroll in a plan.
 - You will need a computer to access Medicare's website or will need to gather plan information. Your pharmacy may be able to help.

For dual-eligibles clients¹:

- Review current medications to make sure they are covered under the plan they have been assigned to.
 - If not, they may need to change to a different plan or their MD may have to consider a different medication.

¹ Those who have Medicare and Medicaid.

For New Residents after January 1, 2006

- Determine whether the new resident's plan covers any new prescription needs, and that it works with the facility's preferred pharmacy.
 - If not, encourage resident/legal guardian/case worker to consider switching to a plan that works with the facility's preferred pharmacy.
 - **Note:** Residents moving from NFs to other settings and from other settings into NFs can change plans if needed. Residents moving between CBC facilities cannot change plans. Dual eligible residents can change monthly.

For dual-eligibles clients:

- Collect co-pays from residents as described in your policies. Pharmacies will know which residents must pay co-payments and those who do not.

At Discharge

- Make sure the discharge is planned and that the receiving facility knows which plan the resident is enrolled in.