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Authorized Signature

Issue Date: 01/03/2006

Topic: Medical Benefits

Subject: MMA transmittal: Reminder to pharmacies about Medicare Part D billing changes

Applies to:

- All DHS Employees
- Area Agencies on Aging
- Children, Adults and Families
- County DD Program Managers
- County Mental Health Directors
- Health Services
- Seniors and People with Disabilities
- Other (please specify): DHS staff and others identified on the SPD, CAF, OMHAS and OMAP transmittal lists

Message:

OMAP will post the attached announcement to the following Web pages. People who eSubscribe to these pages will receive notification by email about this announcement.

1) OMAP provider announcements:

http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/healthplan/notices_providers/main.shtml

2) OMAP pharmacy provider announcements:

http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/healthplan/notices_providers/pharmacies.shtml#notices

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Contact(s):	Brian Olson, OMAP Pharmacy Program Manager; Monica Herrera, MMA Pharmacy Coordinator		
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Important Reminder

Medicare Part D billing changes for pharmacies

What will change?

OHP will only cover some drugs that Part D excludes

On January 1, 2006, OMAP will stop paying for drugs covered by Medicare Part D for clients who are eligible for Medicare.

However, OMAP will continue to pay for certain drugs that Medicare Part D does not cover, as long as prescriptions are for covered conditions and comply with all current Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) and procedures.

Check Medicare regulations for complete lists of their excluded drug categories and classes.

Medical Care IDs

Clients who have Medicare Part D coverage will have a “D” listed in the benefit package field (9b) on their OMAP Medical Care ID (see next page). Except for the reduced drug benefit described above, this package provides the same health coverage as the OHP Plus benefit package.

Part D clients must be in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan

Medicare and OMAP have already helped Medicare clients choose a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) or Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MA-PD).

- If a client drops out of their plan, OMAP will not pay for medications that should be covered by Medicare Part D.
- If a client chooses a plan that does not cover all of their medications, OMAP will not pay for Part D-included medications that the plan doesn't cover.

Pharmacy Point of Sale (POS)

OMAP will not automatically pay for Part D Medicare-Medicaid claims that Medicare denies.

What you can do

Before billing for Part D clients:

- Contact your billing software vendor and/or corporate office to make sure that you can bill multiple payers, including private insurers, Medicare and OMAP.
- Enroll as a Medicare provider, if you haven't already done so.
- Ask the Medicare Part D plans in your service area about contracting with them so that you can be paid for Part D services.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Web site lists Part D contractor contacts and other information to assist pharmacy providers at <www.cms.hhs.gov/Pharmacy/>.

Starting January 1, 2006:

- Check field 9b of the client's Medical ID. If the client has benefit package “D” listed on the Medical ID, bill the client's Medicare drug plan for all prescription drugs, *except those excluded by Medicare*.

Medicare will pay for the majority of prescription drug classifications for these clients. OMAP will not pay these clients' copayments.

For more information

- ✓ **Contact OMAP Provider Services** at (503) 947-5515 or <OMAP.provider-callcenter@state.or.us> for questions about this reminder.
- ✓ **See the proposed 1/1/06 OAR changes** for Pharmacy, General Rules and Managed Care at <www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/healthplan/rules/notices.html>.



