

Health Services
Office of Medical Assistance Programs

Allison Knight, Acting Manager
Program and Policy Section, OMAP

Number: OMAP-IM-06-011
Issue Date: 01/26/06

Authorized Signature

Topic: Medical Benefits

Subject: Provider Announcements (4): MMA updates/reminders and Epocrates Rx[®] information

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): DHS staff and others identified on the SPD, CAF, OMHAS and OMAP transmittal lists |

Message: This transmittal includes four provider announcements. The information covered in each announcement is as follows:

#1 – DHS temporarily covering Part D drugs

Mailed to all pharmacies and posted on our Web site. Includes the temporary administrative rule that allows us to temporarily pay for some Medicare Part D drugs.

#2 – DHS Medicare Hotline temporarily closed

Posted on our Web site only. Explains that the DHS Medicare Hotline will be closed from 5pm, Friday, January 27, until 8am, Monday, January 30, 2006, and what to do while the Hotline is closed.

#3 – Temporary override code is client-specific

Posted on our Web site only. Reminder to pharmacies that a temporary override code is authorized for one client at a time.

#4 – MMA updates/reminders and information about Epocrates Rx[®]

Mailed to all providers and posted on our Web site. The announcement:

- ◆ Reiterates the information in announcements 1 and 2
- ◆ Clarifies the OHP with Limited Drug benefit package coverage, and
- ◆ Announces that Medicare Part D drug plans' formulary information is now available through Epocrates Rx[®]

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Contacts: Jane-Ellen Weidanz, MMA Project Manager
MMA Project Manager
Phone – (503) 945-6444
Fax – (503) 373-7902
Janeellen.a.weidanz@state.or.us

or

OMAP Provider Services
Phone – 1-800-336-6016
OMAP.prov-callcenter@state.or.us



Office of Medical Assistance Programs
500 Summer St NE, E-35
Salem, OR 97301-1077

Announcement #1 – pg 1

[Pharmacy mailing address]

Medicaid Temporary Prescription Drug Assistance for Fully Dual Eligible Medicare Part D Clients

Since our Friday, January 13, 2006, electronic communication posted at http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/healthplan/notices_providers/rx_override_011306.pdf, OMAP has filed an emergency rule to cover the temporary workaround for billing OMAP for Medicare Part D drugs (attached). Affected clients will have a “D-OHP with Limited Drug” in Field 9b of their OMAP Medical Care IDs.

In order for OMAP to consider a Medicare Part D-covered medication for payment, pharmacies must:

1. Continue to bill the Medicare Part D plan as the primary payer identified through an H-I inquiry;
2. Try to resolve the issue with the Medicare Part D plan directly;
3. Bill Wellpoint/Anthem, Medicare’s point-of-sale (POS) Solution at **1-800-662-0210**, and
4. If you are still unable to resolve the problem through the steps above, contact the DHS Medicare Hotline at **1-877-585-0007** for assistance. Hotline staff may be able to resolve the issue with the Medicare Part D plan. If unable to do so, Hotline staff will provide the pharmacy with override instructions to bill OMAP directly for the OHP client’s needed drugs.

The client is responsible to pay the appropriate Medicare copayment. In some cases, OMAP may reimburse some of the client’s cost-sharing obligations. For the duration of the temporary workaround, OMAP will authorize up to a 34-day supply of a prescription at one time. We will pay the amount the Part D drug plan would have paid, had they adjudicated the claim first, or the amount OMAP would pay for Medicaid clients who are not also Medicare beneficiaries.

This is a temporary solution while we continue to work with the federal Medicare program as they resolve issues with the Part D implementation.

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and for helping our dual eligible clients transition to their new prescription drug coverage. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact OMAP: Monica Herrera, MVA Pharmacy Coordinator, (503) 945-5916 or Brian Olson, OMAP Pharmacy Policy Analyst, (503) 945-6492.

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Announcement #1 – pg 2

410-121-0149 Medicaid Temporary Prescription Drug Assistance for Fully Dual Eligible Medicare Part D Clients

(1) This rule is a temporary solution implemented because many pharmacies are not able to verify that the fully dual eligible client is enrolled in one of the federal Medicare Prescription Drug Plans or that the client is eligible for low-income subsidy assistance. OMAP will continue to work with the federal Medicare program to resolve these implementation issues with Part D coverage.

(2) Effective January 14, 2006, for the purposes described in Subsection (1), enrolled pharmacies may send the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) claims for Part D drugs and cost-sharing obligations of clients who have both Medicare and Medicaid coverage (fully dual eligible clients) if:

(a) The drug(s) was covered by OMAP for fully dual eligible clients prior to January 1, 2006; and

(b) The pharmacy has attempted to bill Medicare's Part D system but cannot resolve the claim by:

(A) Continuing to bill the Medicare Part D plan as the primary payer identified through an E-1 query;

(B) Trying to resolve the issue with the Medicare Part D plan directly;

(C) Billing Wellpoint/Anthem, Medicare's Point of Sale Solution.

(3) If all the criteria in Subsection (2) are met, then OMAP will consider paying the claim or a portion of the claim, as follows:

(a) The pharmacy must contact the DHS Medicare hotline at 1-877-585-0007 to obtain authorization for claim submission;

(b) The fully dual eligible client is responsible for paying the appropriate \$1/\$3 or \$2/\$5 Medicare copayment, whichever is applicable;

(c) OMAP payment authorization will be limited to not greater than a one-month supply; and

(d) OMAP's reimbursement amount will be limited to the amount the Part D drug plan would have paid, had the Part D drug plan adjudicated the claim first, or the amount OMAP would pay for Medicaid clients who are not also Medicare beneficiaries.

(4) This rule supersedes all other rules relating to the limitations and exclusions of drug coverage for clients with Medicare Part D.

Stat. Auth. ORS 409.010, ORS 409.050, and 2005 OR law, Ch. 754 (SB 1088)

Statutes Implemented: ORS 414.065

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Announcement #2

Important Information About the DHS Medicare Hotline

The DHS Medicare Hotline will be closed this weekend (January 28-29, 2006)

Please call the hotline (1-877-585-0007) with requests to approve overrides on all critical Medicare Part D prescriptions by Friday afternoon, January 27, 2006.

During the weekend you may dispense Part D drugs to dual eligible clients if you have followed all other OMAP authorization instructions outlined in OAR 410-121-0149 (Try an LL query, work with Medicare plans, call POS Solution). If those fail on Monday, January 30, 2006, call the DHS Medicare Hotline to authorize an override, providing the claim meets all qualifying criteria.

We appreciate your willingness to help dual eligible clients gain access to their needed prescription drugs. To this end, we will make every effort on Monday to promptly process claims for drugs dispensed over the weekend.

Questions? Contact Brian Olson (503) 945-6492 or
Monica Herrera (503) 945-5916.





Oregon

Theodore G. Owens, Governor

Announcement #3

Health Services

Office of Medical Assistance Programs

500 Summer Street NE, R35

Salem, OR 97301-1077

Voice (503) 945-5772

FAX (503) 373-7689

TTY (503) 378-6791

January 20, 2006

To: Medicare/Medicaid Pharmacy Providers

From: Allison Knight, Interim Manager, OMAP Program and Policy
Jane-ellen Weidanz, DIIS MMA Project Manager



Subject: Pharmacy overrides for Part D drugs are client-specific

A few pharmacies are misusing OMAP's Hotline instructions (below) for obtaining authorization to use override codes for Medicare Part D clients. You must get authorization **for each client** so OMAP has accurate records to bill Medicare later. Applying the override code to all your fully dual eligible customers without individual OMAP authorization could make you subject to audit.

Instructions (see OAR 410-121-0149)

In order for OMAP to consider a Medicare Part D-covered medication for payment, pharmacies must:

1. Continue to bill the Medicare Part D plan as the primary payer;
2. Try to resolve the issue with the Medicare Part D plan directly;
3. Bill Wellpoint/Arthen, Medicare's point-of-sale (POS) Solution at 1-800-662-0210, and
4. If you are unable to bill through the Medicare system, contact the DSH Medicare Hotline at 1-877-585-3001 for assistance. Hotline staff may be able to resolve the issue with the Medicare Part D plan. If unable to do so, Hotline staff will provide the pharmacy with override instructions to bill OMAP directly for the client's needed drugs.

You may ask for authorization to apply overrides for several clients in one phone call, but please secure authorization for each individual client. Overrides expire after one day and must be authorized again, even if they are for the same client and/or drug. Thank you for your cooperation.

Questions? Contact Brian Olson, OMAP Pharmacy Policy Analyst, (503) 945-6492 or brian.olson@state.or.us, or Monica Herrera, OMAP MMA Pharmacy Coordinator, (503) 945-5916 or monica.herrera@state.or.us.

DHS temporarily covers Medicare Part D drugs

On January 18, 2006, we filed temporary rule 410-121-0149. This rule allows us to pay pharmacies (using a temporary override code) for a one-month supply of a Medicare Part D prescription for clients on the *OHP with Limited Drug* benefit package. This rule was filed because many clients have not received proof of their Medicare coverage, and pharmacies are unable to verify their Medicare eligibility through other means.

Note to pharmacies

Some pharmacies are using the temporary override code for Medicare Part D drugs improperly. Pharmacies must get authorization for **each** client. If the pharmacy does not obtain authorization for **each** client, it may be audited. Pharmacies can obtain OMAP authorization for **each** client by calling the DHS Medicare Hotline, at 1-877-585-0007.

Reminder/clarification of OHP with Limited Drug benefit package coverage

On January 1, 2006, Medicare implemented the new Medicare Prescription Drug Program, Medicare Part D. Because of this, OMAP created the, *OHP with Limited Drug* benefit package, to identify clients who have both Medicare and OHP/Medicaid coverage.

The *OHP with Limited Drug* benefit package **covers the same medical, dental, and mental health services** as the *OHP Plus* benefit package. However, the *OHP with Limited Drug* benefit package **does not cover drugs covered by Medicare Part D** (see exception above).

Epocrates Rx[®] now carries Medicare Part D formulary information

On January 1, 2006, Medicare Part D formulary information became available through Epocrates Rx[®]. This allows for quick and easy access to comprehensive data, such as covered drugs, formulary alternatives, and prior authorization (PA) requirements. There are more than 70 different Medicare drug plans in Oregon. This makes Epocrates Rx[®] even more valuable.

Epocrates Rx[®]

Epocrates Rx[®] is a drug reference database, available for free on Palm and Pocket PC handheld devices that sync to Windows computers, and can be downloaded from the Epocrates Rx[®] Web site, at < www.epocrates.com >.

For information about Epocrates Rx[®] features, hardware requirements, and clinical content, go to < www2.epocrates.com/products/rx/ >.

Reminder

On September 1, 2005, Epocrates Rx[®] began offering prescribing providers access to OMAP's Plan Drug List (PDL). The Epocrates Rx[®] software allows providers to check formulary status, PA requirements, formulary alternatives, generic substitutes and quantity limits from their Palm or PocketPC.

Announcement #4 – pg 2

Providers without handheld devices can access the PDL with the Epocrates Rx® web-based PC software for an annual subscription fee. A non-database version of the PDL can be accessed for free on the DHS Web site, at < www.oregon.gov/DHS/healthplan/tools_prov/PDL.shtml >

Questions?

Contact OMAP Provider Services for assistance, by:

☎ E-mail at: < OMAP.prov-callcenter@state.or.us >.

☎ Phone at: 1-800-336-6016.



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