



MARYLAND MEDICAID PHARMACY PROGRAM

No. 149
October 7, 2014

ADVISORY

*In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DHMH) **Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program (MMPP)** has developed the **Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program Advisory**. To expedite information timely to the pharmacy and prescriber communities, an email network has been established which incorporates the email lists of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, EPIC, CARE, Long Term Care Consultants, headquarters of all chain drugstores and prescriber associations and organizations. It is our hope that the information is disseminated to all interested parties. If you have not received this email through any of the previously noted parties or via DHMH, please contact the MMPP representative at 410-767-1455.*

Notice to Prescribers Concerning the Carve-Out of Naloxone

On October 1, 2014, injectable naloxone hydrochloride (generic version of Narcan® and Evzio®) was carved-out of the HealthChoice managed care benefit and is now covered by Medicaid fee-for-service. The carve-out of naloxone hydrochloride injections joins the mental health drugs and antiretroviral agents as other drugs that are carved-out from the HealthChoice managed care benefit and are covered by Medicaid fee-for-service.

The carve-out of these naloxone products will have no effect on the way you would normally prescribe injectable naloxone. A prescription is required in order for your patient to receive injectable naloxone. However, if you wish to prescribe an Intranasal (IN) Mucosal Atomizing Device that can be used as an alternative route of the administration of naloxone, then a separate prescription will be required in order for the pharmacy to dispense the device. The separate prescription is needed because the device is classified as a Durable Medical Equipment (DME) needle free injection device and is billed by the pharmacy separately from the prescription for naloxone.