



MARYLAND MEDICAID PHARMACY PROGRAM

No. 30
Thursday, October 5, 2006

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 Pharmacy Program (MPP)** has developed the **Maryland 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 MPP representative at 410-767-1455.*

Pharmacy Dispensing Fee Survey

The Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program is launching a Medicaid dispensing fee survey on Friday, October 6, 2006. The purpose of the survey is for the State to determine the current cost to dispense Medicaid prescriptions for various types of pharmacies. This survey does not address the costs of drug ingredients, which is the other component of the pharmacy reimbursement formula. Please fill out a separate survey for each pharmacy under common ownership. The results of the survey will be given to the Maryland legislature.

All pharmacies are asked to participate in the survey. You have until Monday, October 23, 2006 to submit your response. The average pharmacy should be prepared to spend less than an hour on each survey. Plan to do it in one sitting, because you will be unable to "bookmark" partially completed surveys and return to them at a later time. It would be a good idea to have your financial records handy when working on the survey. The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Health Services Research Department will conduct the analysis. The State of Maryland reserves the right to validate at your place of business the information submitted. Your responses will remain completely confidential. For questions, please call Philip Cogan of the Medicaid Clinical Pharmacy Services Division at 410-767-1455. You will find the survey on the Internet at <http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/pharmacysurvey.htm>.