



MARYLAND PHARMACY PROGRAM

Medicaid - Pharmacy Assistance – Pharmacy Discount

No. 8
Thursday, June 10, 2004

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, 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 410-767-5395.

MARYLAND PHARMACY PROGRAM

CHANGES TO PHARMACY DISPENSING FEE AND COPAYMENT FOR PRESCRIPTIONS FOR MEDICAID RECIPIENTS

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2004

Pharmacy Dispensing Fee

The Maryland Pharmacy Program is changing the pharmacy dispensing fee paid for fee-for-service prescriptions. Dispensing fees are as follows:

	<u>Retail Prescriptions</u>	<u>Long Term Care Prescriptions</u>
Generic Drugs	\$3.69	\$4.69
Preferred Brand Name Drugs	\$3.69	\$4.69
All Other Brand Name Drugs	\$2.69	\$3.69

Recipient Co-payment for Prescriptions (Fee-for-Service)

Beginning July 1, 2004, the recipient co-payment for fee-for-service prescriptions is as follows:

	<u>Retail Prescriptions</u>	<u>Long Term Care Prescriptions</u>
Generic Drugs	\$1.00	\$0
Preferred Brand Name Drugs	\$1.00	\$0
All Other Brand Name Drugs	\$2.00	\$0

Please note: A pharmacy provider may not deny services to Medicaid recipients who are unable to pay the co-payment. If you (the pharmacy) have any questions, contact the Department at 410-767-1455.

The above changes do not apply to prescriptions paid by managed care organizations. Managed care organizations are responsible for instructing pharmacies on their individual payment methodology.

The co-payment for the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program remains \$2.50 for generic drugs and brand name drugs on the preferred drug list and \$7.50 for brand name drugs not on the preferred drug list.