



# MARYLAND MEDICAID PHARMACY PROGRAM

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## 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.

### Late Refills of HIV/AIDS Medications – Again!

As it was originally communicated in Advisory 99 (November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011), the Medicaid Pharmacy Program has implemented a “Late Refill” edit which denies claims for any antiretroviral drug that is refilled later than 16.7% of the last days supply (e.g. on day 36 after a 30 day supply, or on day 17 after at 14 day supply). While this edit was implemented on November 4<sup>th</sup>, it has not worked as intended and therefore, the Program had to make some coding changes to the POS system. As of January 4<sup>th</sup>, the edit is working as intended.

When such a claim for an antiretroviral drug rejects with the short message “DUR Reject Error”, the pharmacy will see a long message directing them to “*Counsel patient, Inform prescriber. Override with DUR code for pd claim.*”

The pharmacist is expected to counsel the patient when dispensing the drug. While counseling patients, find out when they last took a dose or if they have missed any doses. Reinforce the importance of complying with the proper regimen. It is important that the patient does not leave the pharmacy without the medication.

The pharmacist should alert prescriber about the late refill.

To get a paid claim, the pharmacist should use the following DUR intervention codes:

- “LR”(Underuse) in the Reason for Service field;
  - “MO or RO” (Prescriber Consulted or Pharmacist Consulted) in the Professional Service field; and
  - “1B” (Filled as is) in the Result of Service field.
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For a more general explanation of DUR codes see MMPP's Advisory # 52 "Responsible Use of Intervention Codes" on the web at <http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/mma/mpap/pdf/Advisory52.pdf>.

We apologize for any confusion and delays you may have experienced during the past couple of months related to the edit not working properly.

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