



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

In light of the fact that poor antiretroviral medication refill adherence has the potential for developing drug resistance profiles of HIV-1, Medicaid Pharmacy Program will deny claims for any antiretroviral drug that is refilled more than 35 days after the drug was previously dispensed for a 30 day supply.

When such a claim for an antiretroviral drug rejects with the short message "*Late refill*", the pharmacy will see a long message directing him/her 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. If time permits, ask if they would like further education about this medication. It is important that the patient does not leave the pharmacy without a refill.

The pharmacist should alert prescriber about the late refill.

For 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>.
