



Department of
Job and Family Services

Ted Strickland, Governor

Douglas E. Lumpkin, Director

July 23, 2009

Attention Ohio Medicaid Pharmacy Providers:

The Ohio budget bill (HB 1) has changed the way selected over-the-counter (OTC) drugs should be billed to Medicaid for residents of nursing facilities (NF). Beginning with date of service August 1, 2009, coverage responsibility for these drugs will be included in the NF's per diem rate and can no longer be billed directly to Medicaid for payment. Please note that this applies only to residents of nursing facilities, and not to residents of intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded (ICF-MR).

The OTC drugs that are no longer separately billable to Medicaid when prescribed for a consumer who resides in a nursing facility are those that are classified into one of the following drug classes:

- a) Analgesics, including urinary analgesics;
- b) Compounding vehicles and bulk chemicals;
- c) Cough and cold preparations and antihistamines, except cetirizine and loratadine;
- d) Ear preparations;
- e) Gastrointestinal agents, except histamine-2 receptor antagonists, proton pump inhibitors, and loperamide;
- f) Hemorrhoidal preparations;
- g) Nasal preparations;
- h) Ophthalmic agents, except antihistamines;
- i) Saliva substitutes;
- j) Sedatives;
- k) Topical agents, except antifungals and acne preparations; or
- l) Vitamins and minerals, except prenatal vitamins and fluoride.

Instructions for pharmacies that serve NF residents:

- Claims for the OTC drugs listed above will be denied for patients whose Medicaid eligibility records show they reside in a NF.
- OTC drugs listed above should not be billed directly to Medicaid for NF residents.
- The NF is responsible for providing OTC drugs to its residents.

Instructions for pharmacies that do not serve NF residents:

- Claims for the OTC drugs listed above will be denied for patients whose Medicaid eligibility records show they reside in a NF.
- If the pharmacy has knowledge that the patient does not reside in a NF, the pharmacy should call ACS, the pharmacy claims processor, at 1-877-518-1545 to request an override.
- The patient or patient's representative should be advised to have their Medicaid eligibility caseworker change the living arrangement in the eligibility record.

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