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Clarification on Part D and Fee-For-Service (FFS) Providers, New Web-based Educational Products, and the Latest Information on Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage – The Seventh in the MLN Matters Series

Key Words

SE0557, Web-based, Education, Drug, Coverage, Prescription, Toolkit, Poster, Brochure, Guide, Part-D, FFS

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, suppliers, and their staff who provide service to people with Medicare

Key Points

- SE0557 includes information about:
 - Part D and FFS providers;
 - New web-based educational products; and
 - The latest information on Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage.
- Being an enrolled provider in the FFS program (i.e., Part B) does not impart Part D-related billing privileges.
- Medicare Part B covers a limited number of prescription drugs and biologicals that generally fall into three categories:
 - Drugs furnished incident to a physician's service;
 - Drugs furnished through a Medicare Part B covered item of durable medical equipment (DME); and
 - Drugs specifically covered by statute (for example, oral immunosuppressive drugs).
- The above drugs continue to be covered and paid for under the FFS Medicare program and FFS providers will continue to bill their carriers, fiscal intermediaries, and durable medical equipment regional carriers (DMERCs) for these drugs.
- The coverage under Part B continues after the January 1, 2006 effective date for Part D.

- Medicare prescription drug coverage under Part D will be administered through Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans (MA-PDs) and Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs).
- The provider of a Medicare beneficiary who has joined a MA or PDP must have a contractual relationship with that MA-PD or PDP to bill and receive payment from the MA-PDP or PDP for that individual's covered prescription drugs.

Information Available on the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Information for Providers Web Page

- For a more detailed discussion of Medicare Part B covered drugs, see http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HistPartBDrugPricingFiles/01_overview.asp on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) website.
- The following new information can be found on the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Information for Providers web page at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/23_drugcoverage.asp on the CMS website:
 - "Toolkit for Health Professionals: Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage," available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/provtoolkit.pdf> on the CMS website.
 - "Limited Income? SSA Can Help - Posters to Display in Health Care Settings," can be ordered at http://cms.meridianksi.com/kc/main/kc_frame.asp?kc_ident=kc0001&loc=5 on the CMS website.
- New fact sheets available on the Medicare website include the following:
 - "Quick Facts about Medicare's New Coverage for Prescription Drugs for People Who Have Coverage from an Employer or Union" (Publication Number 11107), available at <http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11107.pdf> on the Medicare website.
 - "Quick Facts about Medicare's New Coverage for Prescription Drugs for People in a Medicare Health Plan with Drug Coverage" (Publication Number 11135), available at <http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11135.pdf> on the Medicare website.
 - "Quick Facts about Medicare's New Coverage for Prescription Drugs for Alaskans with Limited Income and Resources" (Publication Number 11105_AK), available at http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11105_AK.pdf on the Medicare website.
 - "Quick Facts about Medicare's New Coverage for Prescription Drugs for Hawaiians with Limited Income and Resources" (Publication Number 11105_HI), available at http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11105_HI.pdf on the Medicare website.
 - "Quick Facts About Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage and Protecting Your Personal Information" (Publication Number 11147), available at <http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11147.pdf> on the Medicare website.
- New publications available on the CMS website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Partnerships/PDI/list.asp> include the following:
 - "Basic Questions and Answers About Prescription Drug Coverage," available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/answerkey-8-18-05.pdf> on the CMS website.

- More information on provider education and outreach regarding drug coverage can be found at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/23_drugcoverage.asp on the CMS website.
- Detailed drug coverage information for CMS partners and advocates for people with Medicare can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Partnerships/> on the CMS website.
- Providers can also find additional information regarding prescription drug plans at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovGenIn/> on the CMS website.
- Further information on CMS implementation of the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MMAUpdate/> on the CMS website.

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0557.pdf>

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/23_drugcoverage.asp

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/partnerships>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareContractingReform>