



PLAN OVERSIGHT & ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP

DATE: May 29, 2008

TO: All Current and Prospective Medicare Advantage (MA), Prescription Drug Plan (PDP), PACE, 1876 Cost, and Demonstration Organizations

FROM: Cynthia E. Moreno, Director

SUBJECT: ACTION – PBP Technical Issue Concerning the One-Month and Three-Month In-Network Retail Pharmacy Copayment Edit Rule

CMS has identified a rounding issue with the edit rule related to the One-Month and Three-Month In-Network Retail Pharmacy copayment fields that may generate an erroneous warning message in certain cases in the Contract Year (CY) 2009 Plan Benefit Package (PBP) software.

If your organization has received the erroneous warning message described below, please contact the HPMS Help Desk as soon as possible at either 1-800-220-2028 or hpms@cms.hhs.gov for technical assistance.

If your organization has **NOT** experienced this problem, you can disregard this memo, as no action is required on your part.

The 2009 PBP software includes a new edit rule for plans that charge both One-Month and Three-Month In-Network Retail Pharmacy copayment values in a given Pre-ICL tier or Gap tier. The new edit rule specifically requires that the In-Network Three-Month Retail copayment value must be equal to or less than three times the value of the In-Network One-Month Retail copayment value.

In most cases, the new edit rule is working as expected. However, in some cases, a warning message incorrectly generates when a plan enters certain dollar and cent value combinations that should otherwise pass the edit check (e.g., \$5.10 One-Month Copay and \$15.30 Three-Month Copay). In these cases, an underlying rounding issue is causing the warning message to generate without cause.

The following PBP screens/questions are impacted by this technical issue:

- Actuarially Equivalent - Pre-ICL Tier Copayment Screen
 - Copayment for In-Network Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)
 - Copayment for In-Network Preferred Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)

- Copayment for In-Network Non-Preferred Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)
- Alternative - Pre-ICL Tier Copayment Screen
 - Copayment for In-Network Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)
 - Copayment for In-Network Preferred Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)
 - Copayment for In-Network Non-Preferred Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)
- Alternative - Gap Tier Copayment Screen
 - Copayment for In-Network Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)
 - Copayment for In-Network Preferred Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)
 - Copayment for In-Network Non-Preferred Retail Pharmacy (1 Month and 3 Month fields)

Your organization may be impacted by this technical issue if you receive one of the following warning messages:

- In-Network Retail Pharmacy Message:
 - “For Item ‘Indicate Copayment amount for In-Network Pharmacy one month supply:’ The In-Network three month value must be equal to or less than three times the In-Network one month value.
- In-Network Retail Preferred Pharmacy Message:
 - “For Item ‘Indicate Copayment amount for In-Network Preferred Pharmacy one month supply:’ The In-Network Preferred three month value must be equal to or less than three times the In-Network Preferred one month value.
- In-Network Retail Non- Preferred Pharmacy Message:
 - “For Item ‘Indicate Copayment amount for In-Network Non-Preferred Pharmacy one month supply:’ The In-Network Non-Preferred three month value must be equal to or less than three times the In-Network Non-Preferred one month value.

If you are experiencing this issue, please contact the HPMS Help Desk as soon as possible at either 1-800-220-2028 or hpms@cms.hhs.gov for technical assistance.

Because of the isolated nature of this problem, we are distributing the software patch file and the corresponding installation instructions to affected users on a case-by-case basis. It will **not** be posted on HPMS at this time.

If your organization uses this particular benefit, but you are **NOT** receiving the error described in this memo, you do **NOT** need to take action.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.