



Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene 201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor - Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor - Nelson J. Sabatini, Secretary

Office of Operations & Eligibility Medical Care Programs

Joseph E. Davis Executive Director

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM Pharmacy Transmittal No. 171

September 24, 2003

TO:

Pharmacies

FROM:

Joseph E. Davis, Executive Director

Office of Operations and Eligibility

NOTE:

Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of

the content of this transmittal.

RE:

Copayment Change for Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Recipients

Effective October 1, 2003, the copayment for prescriptions under the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program will change from \$5 per prescription to a two tiered copayment structure. The new copayment will be \$7.50 per prescription for brand name drugs and \$2.50 per prescription for generic drugs.

Since the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program is part of a demonstration waiver under the federal Medicaid Program, pharmacies are <u>not</u> required to fill prescriptions for recipients unable to pay the copayment.

The Program is in the process of establishing a Preferred Drug List. When the Preferred Drug List goes into effect, the copayment for brand name drugs on the preferred drug list will be the same as for generic drugs.

Questions concerning this transmittal should be directed to the Division of Pharmacy Services at 410-767-1455.