

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.

National Provider Identifier (NPI) Information for Prescribers

Maryland Medicaid (MA) Kidney Disease Program (KDP) Maryland AIDS Drug Assistance Program (MADAP) Breast & Cervical Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment Program (BCCDT)

Effective March 1, 2009

- Pharmacy claims for recipients in the above programs, which are submitted without the prescriber's NPI, will be rejected.
- To avoid possible problems for the patients in obtaining their medications, prescribers should include their NPI number with each medication order, whether written, telephoned, faxed or e-prescribed.
- The pharmacy Point-of-Sale claims processor will validate the prescriber NPI for all pharmacy claims.
- Prescribers that have yet to obtain an NPI number can easily obtain one. Information on how to get an NPI and a registry of NPI numbers already assigned, is available online at https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do.