



ADVISORY

No. 202

December 4, 2019

Carve-In of HIV/AIDS Medications to Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

The Office of Pharmacy Services (OPS) wants to alert you that effective January 1, 2020, pharmacy claims for all HIV/AIDS medications will no longer be covered by Maryland Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) program and must be submitted to the appropriate HealthChoice MCO plan, similar to how it is currently being done for other MCO covered medications. Please note that from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 there will be a “soothing period” during which the MCOs will continue their members’ existing antiretroviral therapy without changes. During this soothing phase, the OPS urges you to work collaboratively with your patients and their prescribers in order to ensure a smooth transition and to avoid denial of these prescription claims due to potential prior authorization or quantity limits that may be set by individual MCO formularies at the conclusion of the soothing period. Please note that during the soothing period, new patients placed on antiretroviral therapy will be subject to the MCOs’ HIV/AIDS medication requirements.

To assist in improving compliance, if the prescription is refilled later than expected, there will be a “late refill” edit message on claims for HIV/AIDS medications.

For additional information, please refer to the Maryland Department of Health

Transmittal # PT 11-20:

<https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/MCOupdates/Documents/PT%2011-20%20Carve-In%20of%20the%20HIV%20AIDS%20Medications%20Effective%20January%201,%202020.pdf>

Thank you for your cooperation.

In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Maryland Department of Health **Maryland Office of Pharmacy Services** has developed the **Maryland Medicaid 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 MDH, please contact the MMPP representative at 410-767-1455.