

January 6th, 2011 MCO Liaison Meeting – NDC Updates

Below is a summary of the discussion on the NDC updates from the January 6th MCO Liaison meeting:

1. The minutes from the December 2nd MCO Technical Workgroup meeting were e-mailed to the MCOs on December 20th.
2. DHMH received several questions subsequent to the December 2nd meeting. A Q&A document addressing those questions has been posted on December 22nd at the DHMH website. The link is: <http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/mma/healthchoice/>. Updates related to the MCO NDC rebate activities will be posted to this link.
3. The Department's rebate contractor will be providing the MCOs with the HCPC to NDC crosswalk that is currently being used for the FFS claims. In order for the contractor to provide this crosswalk, each MCO must sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) with the vendor. As soon as the NDA is received from the vendor, it will be forwarded to the MCOs.
4. The Department has confirmed that the utilization files for each MCO will be provided to the MCOs using the same method that is currently in place for the Mental Health and HIV/AIDS claims files.
5. The Rebate Disputes Process: The Department's expectation is that when a drug manufacturer disputes "inconsistencies" in the utilization data used for invoicing rebates (usually because the utilization was higher than what the manufacturer was projecting based on their internal data, or because the reimbursement amount seems suspect, or the incorrect units of measure were on the claim, etc.), the State's rebates staff will identify which PMB adjudicated the relevant claims and forward the claim level detail data to the MCO that paid for those claims and ask the MCO to investigate and confirm/validate (with supporting documentation) that the information is correct. If the MCO does not or can not provide validation, the Department will have to accept the dispute and resolve it to the manufacturers benefit, and therefore, lose the disputed rebate dollars. If the MCO does validate that the data used for the invoice was correct, the manufacturer will have to pay the disputed rebate dollars. Per CMS guidelines, the State is allowed 70-85 days from the date the manufacturer files the dispute, until we provide a formal response back to the manufacturer. The MCOs will have up to 30 days to research and provide the Department with their response. The Department will in turn, respond to the manufacturer by the due time.

The Department reminded each of the MCOs to provide us with the Primary and Secondary contact information (name, tel # and e-mail) of the MCO staff responsible for handling disputes. The MCOs must provide this information to Athos Alexandrou (alexandroua@dhmh.state.md.us) **no later than February 1st**.

6. Rebate Invoices for MCO Encounter claims: The State's rebate vendor is in the process of invoicing drug manufacturers for claims captured through Coordinated Pro-DUR for the period of March 23rd, 2010 – September 30th 2010. These invoices should be going out in January. The Department will notify the MCOs once the invoices are generated and mailed. Subsequent invoices will be generated no later than 60 days after the end of the quarter.