



**An Information Service of the Division of Medical Assistance**

**North Carolina  
Medicaid Pharmacy  
Newsletter**

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## Change in Prescription Limitations

Effective June 1, 2006, the monthly prescription limitation will change from six (6) prescriptions per recipient per month to eight (8) prescriptions per recipient per month. Pharmacists will be able to override the monthly prescription limit with three (3) additional prescriptions per recipient per month. Overrides will be available at the discretion of the pharmacist and in consultation with the recipient's physician based on the assessment of the recipient's need for additional medications during the month of service.

Some recipients have clinical indications that warrant more prescriptions than are allowed under the monthly prescription limitations and will be exempt from the monthly limitations. DMA will require that recipients receiving more than 11 prescriptions per month be evaluated as part of a medication therapy management program. Recipients identified for the medication therapy management program who require more than 11 prescriptions each month will be restricted to a single pharmacy. Pharmacies participating in this program will be eligible for a monthly medication therapy management fee for each Medicaid recipient being managed. The recipient's physician and pharmacist will be reviewing the recipient's medication profile to ensure clinically appropriate and cost effective use of drug therapy.

For more detail information, please refer to the May 2006 Special Bulletin, *Outpatient Pharmacy Program* from DMA's website at <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/bulletin.htm>.

## Pharmacy Seminars

Seminars for the outpatient pharmacy program are scheduled for May 2006. This seminar is designed to educate prescribers and pharmacists on the policy changes that will be effective June 1, 2006.

**Preregistration for this seminar is required.** Providers may register for this seminar by completing and submitting the [registration form](#) or by [registering online](#). A confirmation notice will be mailed to each registered participants. **The deadline for registration is April 30, 2006.**

**The seminars will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m. Providers should arrive at least 30 minutes early.**

Providers must print a copy of the May 2006 Special Bulletin, *Outpatient Pharmacy Program*, from DMA's website at <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/bulletin.htm> and bring it to the seminar.

**Pharmacy Seminar Dates and Locations:**

<b>Thursday, May 4, 2006</b> Greenville City Hotel and Bistro 203 West Greenville Blvd. Greenville, NC	<b>Thursday, May 11, 2006</b> Coast Line Convention Center 503 Nutt St. Wilmington, NC
<b>Tuesday, May 16, 2006</b> Wake Technical Community College 9101 Fayetteville Rd. Raleigh, NC	<b>Wednesday, May 24, 2006</b> Asheville Crown Plaza One Holiday Inn Drive Asheville, NC

**Registration Form for the Medicaid Pharmacy Seminar**

(cut and return registration form only)

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**Medicaid Pharmacy Seminar  
Registration Form  
(No Fee)**

**Please Print**

Provider Name \_\_\_\_\_ Provider Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

I will attend the seminar at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
(location) (date)

**Deadline for Registration is April 30, 2006.**

Return to: Provider Services  
EDS  
P.O. Box 300009  
Raleigh, NC 27622  
(919)851-4014 (fax)

## **Directions to the Medicaid Pharmacy Seminars**

### ***Greenville City Hotel and Bistro – Greenville, North Carolina – Thursday, May 4, 2006***

#### From Raleigh

Take 264 East to Wilson, N.C. and then to Greenville. Coming into Greenville city limits, turn right at the 2nd stoplight onto 264 Alternate (also called Allen Road). The hotel is 5 miles from the turn on the right.

#### From New Bern

Take 17 North to Vanceboro, N.C. In Vanceboro, take 43 East to Greenville. At the 3rd stoplight coming into Greenville (Plaza Mall is on your left), turn left onto Greenville Boulevard. The hotel is approximately 2 miles on the left.

#### From North/South of North Carolina

Take Interstate 95 to Wilson, N.C. In Wilson, take 264 East to Greenville. Coming into Greenville city limits, turn right at the 2nd stoplight onto 264 Alternate (also Allen Road). The hotel is 5 miles from the turn on the right.

### ***Coast Line Convention Center - Wilmington, North Carolina – Thursday, May 11, 2006***

Take I-40 east to Wilmington. Take the Highway 17 exit. Turn left onto Market Street. Travel approximately 4 or 5 miles to Water Street. Turn right onto Water Street. The Coast Line Inn is located one block from the Hilton on Nutt Street behind the Railroad Museum.

### ***Wake Technical Community College- Raleigh, North Carolina – May 16, 2006***

From I-40, take the South Saunders Street/U.S. 70 East/U.S. 401 South exit. Follow U.S. 401 South approximately nine miles. The college will be on the left.

### ***Asheville Crown Plaza – Asheville, North Carolina – Wednesday, May 24, 2006***

From Interstate 240 West, take exit 3B. Turn right and follow the signs directing you to the Crown Plaza Resort Hotel, which is located directly behind Westgate Shopping Center.

**EDS, 1-800-688-6696 or 919-851-8888**

## Pharmacy Episodic Drug Policy - Quantity Limitations on Sedative Hypnotics

The N.C. Medicaid program will implement the pharmacy episodic drug policy on May 1, 2006. This new policy allows DMA to impose quantity limitations for drugs used episodically and in quantities that support less than daily use. Quantity limitations will be based on FDA labeling and evidence-based guidelines that are in line with best practice standards.

The first drug classes that quantity limitations will be placed on are the sedative hypnotic drug classes H2E and H8B. Recipients will be able to obtain 15 units of these drugs each month with additional quantities requiring prior authorization. Prior authorization for quantities in excess of 15 units each month must be requested through the N.C. Medicaid prior authorization program. Prior authorization criteria and forms for the sedative hypnotics are available on the DMA ACS Prior Authorization website at <http://www.ncmedicaidpbm.com>. ACS can be reached at 1-866-246-8505 or Fax: 1-866-246-8507. Recipients receiving a skilled level of care are exempt from this policy, but this living arrangement must be indicated on the Medicaid eligibility file. The pharmacist will not be able to indicate this on the claim.

The following limitations will be in effect on May 1, 2006:

### Episodic Drugs Quantity Dispensing Limits

Drug	GCN	Quantity Limit per Month	Maximum Days Supply	Prior Authorization Allowed for Excess Quantities
Ambien, Ambien CR	00870, 00871, 25456, 25457	15	34	Y
Sonata	92723	15	34	Y
Prosom, Estazolam	19181, 19182	15	34	Y
Dalmane, Flurazepam	14250, 14251	15	34	Y
Restoril, Temazepam	13840, 13841, 13845, 24036	15	34	Y
Halcion, Triazolam	14280, 14281, 14282	15	34	Y
Doral	40870, 40871	15	34	Y
Lunesta	23925, 23926, 23927	15	34	Y
Rozerem	25202	15	34	Y

Refer to Clinical Coverage Policy No. 9, Outpatient Pharmacy Program, on DMA's website at <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/mp/mpindex.htm> for additional information on the pharmacy episodic drug policy.

## Family Planning Waiver Services

Effective with date of service October 1, 2005, the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) implemented a five (5)-year demonstration waiver project for Medicaid family planning services. Recipients eligible to receive waiver services are not eligible for benefits under any other current Medicaid program. Eligible recipients are issued a blue Medicaid identification card with the following statement printed on the card:

**FAMILY PLANNING WAIVER: RECIPIENT ELIGIBLE FOR  
LIMITED FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES ONLY.**

The Medicaid Family Planning Waiver benefit program code and class **MAFD**, is also indicated on the card. **Providers should pay close attention to the program code “MAF” and the program class “D” to be able to properly identify family planning waiver recipients.** Family Planning Waiver recipients are only eligible for limited family planning services. Inpatient hospital services are not covered. Outpatient hospital services that are not related to family planning are also not covered by the Family Planning Waiver. The Automated Voice Response System (AVRS), on-line and batch eligibility requests have been modified to provide the fourth character program class “D,” which will help to identify family planning waiver recipients. Medicaid Family Planning Waiver is the only program that reports the fourth character of “D.” All other Medicaid program codes will continue to report the normal three characters.

For more information, refer to the January 2006 Special Bulletin, *Family Planning Waiver “Be Smart”* on DMA’s web site at <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/bulletin.htm>.

## Family Planning Waiver Provider Conference Call

In order to further clarify the Medicaid “BE SMART” Family Planning Waiver program, a provider conference call has been scheduled for May 2006 for Pharmacy providers. This conference call is designed to address provider questions about the “BE SMART” program and to provide a brief overview on recipient eligibility, covered services, and billing. Your provider group and will have a specific date and time in which to call. Each conference call will be 30 minutes in duration. Staff from both EDS and DMA will be available to assist in answering provider questions.

**Preregistration for this conference call is required.** Only one person from each agency will need to register. Providers may register by completing and submitting the [registration form](#) or by [registering online](#). A confirmation notice will be mailed to each provider agency. The notification will include the conference call-in telephone number and password. Providers will need this information in order to participate in the conference call. **The deadline for registration is April 30, 2006.**

Providers should print a copy of the May 2006 Special Bulletin, *Medicaid Family Planning Waiver Program* from DMA’s website at <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/bulletin.htm> to use as a reference during the conference call.



## Family Planning Waiver Reminder

On October 1, 2005, the N.C. Medicaid program implemented the Family Planning Waiver program. The program is designed to reduce unintended pregnancies and to improve the well being of children and families in North Carolina by providing family planning services to eligible men and women. This is a reminder that antibiotics that are used in the treatments for STIs are limited to one treatment per recipient per year.

## Changes in Drug Rebate Manufacturers

### Additions

The following labelers have entered into Drug Rebate Agreement and joined the rebate program effective on the date indicated below:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Manufacturer</i>	<i>Date</i>
15054	Tercica. Inc.	01/26/2006
16477	Laser Pharmaceuticals. LLC	04/04/2006

### Reinstated Labelers

Medline Industries, Inc. (Labeler code 53329) has signed a new rebate agreement with a mandatory coverage effective date of 01/23/2006. There is no optional coverage date for this reinstated labeler.

Jubilant Pharm, Inc. (Labeler code 59746) has signed a new rebate agreement with a mandatory coverage effective date of 07/01/2006. There is no optional coverage date for this reinstated labeler.

**Checkwrite Schedule**

April 11, 2006	May 02, 2006	June 06, 2006
April 18, 2006	May 09, 2006	June 13, 2006
April 27, 2006	May 16, 2006	June 22, 2006
	May 25, 2006	

**Electronic Cut-Off Schedule**

April 07, 2006	May 02, 2006	June 02,2006
April 13, 2006	May 12, 2006	June 09, 2006
April 21, 2006	May 19, 2006	June 16, 2006

*Electronic claims must be transmitted and completed by 5:00 p.m. on the cut-off date to be included in the next checkwrite. Any claims transmitted after 5:00 p.m. will be processed on the second checkwrite following the transmission date. POS claims must be transmitted and completed by 12:00 midnight on the day prior to the electronic cut-off date to be include in the next checkwrite.*

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Cheryll Collier  
Executive Director  
EDS