

**Bulletin Number:** MSA 05-60

**Distribution:** All Providers

**Issued:** November 15, 2005

**Subject:** Medicare Part D

**Effective:** January 1, 2006

**Programs Affected:** Medicaid

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform providers of the change in the pharmacy benefit for beneficiaries dually enrolled in the Medicare and Medicaid Programs.

The implementation of the new Medicare pharmacy benefit (Medicare Part D) effective January 1, 2006 requires changes to the Medicaid pharmacy benefit for Medicare/Medicaid dually eligible beneficiaries. Effective on that date, Medicaid will no longer reimburse for prescription drugs available under Medicare Part D for these beneficiaries.

A select group of prescription drugs not covered by Medicare Part D, such as those listed below, will continue to be covered by Medicaid when the coverage criteria is met. Drugs covered by Medicare Part D, but not included in the beneficiary's Medicare Part D plan's formulary will **not** be covered.

- Benzodiazepines
- Barbiturates
- Select over-the-counter drugs (OTCs), such as arthritic, ulcer, antihistamine, dermatological, laxative products, etc.
- Select vitamins and mineral products prescribed at therapeutic doses for deficiency diagnoses
- Agents used to promote smoking cessation

Coverage parameters for drugs can be found on the Michigan Pharmaceutical Product List available at the First Health Services Corporation website: [www.michigan.fhsc.com](http://www.michigan.fhsc.com).

Questions concerning coverage and limitations related to the Medicare Part D benefit must be directed to Medicare.

Medicaid will continue to cover non-pharmacy services provided to Medicare/Medicaid dual eligibles.

## Manual Maintenance

This bulletin should be retained until the information is incorporated into the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual.

**Questions**

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Michigan Department of Community Health, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mail at [ProviderSupport@michigan.gov](mailto:ProviderSupport@michigan.gov). When you submit an e-mail, be sure to include your name, affiliation, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-292-2550.

**Approved**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Reinhart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Reinhart, Director  
Medical Services Administration