



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr. P.H.
Commissioner

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 3, 2006

Dear Prescriber:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of an implementation date change to the Medicaid limited wrap around prescription drug benefit for your dual eligible patients (patients that have both Medicare and Medicaid coverage) as a result of recent legislation.

As you are aware, NYS Medicaid continues to cover certain drugs which are excluded from the Part D benefit, such as barbiturates, benzodiazepines, some prescription vitamins, and non-prescription drugs.

NYS Medicaid also provides a "wrap-around" program, which covers medications, in some circumstances, which are included in the Part D benefit but which the recipient is unable to receive from their Part D plan.

You were recently informed that effective July 1, 2006, drugs which are covered through this Medicaid wrap-around benefit would be limited to the following four categories of drugs:

- Atypical antipsychotics
- Antidepressants
- Antiretrovirals used in the treatment of HIV/AIDS
- Immunosuppressants used in the treatment of transplants

Please note that the implementation date for this change will now be effective January 1, 2007.

Prescribers are still expected to work with their patient's Medicare Part D plans to maximize their patient's Medicare drug benefit. Questions regarding this information can be directed to the Medicaid Pharmacy Unit at (518) 486-3209 or by email at ppno@health.state.ny.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BJW', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Brian J. Wing
Deputy Commissioner
Office of Medicaid Management