



Pharmacy

Drug Acquisition Costs and Associated Costs of Dispensing

In this Newsletter:

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Drug Acquisition Costs and Associated Costs of Dispensing

In accordance with legislation passed in April 2011, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) is undertaking a comprehensive survey of Medicaid enrolled pharmacies to identify drug acquisition costs and associated costs of dispensing. The overall goal of this Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) initiative is to create a pharmacy reimbursement benchmark that is valid, transparent, timely and sustainable.

Average Acquisition Cost (AAC) and Cost of Dispensing (COD) Tentative Timeline*:

- **Apply for HCS Medical Professional Accounts – March 1, 2012**
- **Verify Applications and Issue Accounts – March 2012**
- **Conduct Focus Groups – March 2012**
- **Issue Pilot Study – March 2012**
- **Issue AAC and COD Survey – April 2012**
- **Verify and Publish Rates – June 2012**
- **Implementation – July 2012**

NYSDOH will utilize the Health Commerce System (HCS) and data will be collected through a secure process and in a manner that ensures provider confidentiality. The Department will require Medicaid enrolled pharmacies that do not currently have accounts, to obtain an HCS account by March 1, 2012.

Individuals at chain pharmacies may apply for an account at the corporate level but the account cannot be shared. A single pharmacy must have an individual apply for an account to represent the entity. Your pharmacy may already exist on the HCS. To verify this information, please send an

Message Sent 03/02/2012

email to camuout@health.state.ny.us with the pharmacy name, the pharmacy's NYSED registration number, and a phone number.

***Any changes to the timeline will be communicated as they occur.**

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