



Medicaid Point-of-Sale Conversion Black-Out Dates Postponed to February 18 and 19

Utah Medicaid had previously announced that no claims would be processed on December 28 and 29, 2011 due to the planned conversion of its pharmacy point-of-sale system. However, in light of provider concerns on the proposed timing of the black-out dates, further discussions with the vendor installing the new system, and an extension from the federal government on the adoption of new prescription processing standards, Utah Medicaid has made the decision to postpone the conversion date until February 18 and 19, 2012.

On February 17, 2012 at 5:00 pm, the current point-of-sale system will be taken down. On February 18 and 19, 2012, Utah Medicaid will convert its current point-of-sale system over to a new point-of-sale system designed by Gould Health Systems. System programmers will require these two (2) days for the process of conversion to be complete. No claims will be processed on February 18 and 19, 2012. Consequently, pharmacies will need to utilize their "downtime" procedures to process Medicaid prescriptions during that time. Please request that Medicaid clients continue to present their Medicaid card prior to providing services during that time. The new system will be up for prescription claims processing on February 20, 2012.

Emergency medications requiring a prior authorization must be processed under the 72-hour emergency supply rules. The policy states, "Some medications that require PA may be provided in a medical emergency before authorization is obtained from Medicaid. When a medical emergency occurs, and a medication requiring a PA is required, pharmacy providers may provide up to a 72-hour supply of the medication. When contacted, Medicaid will issue an authorization for the 72-hour supply of

the medication on the next business day. All subsequent quantities must meet all PA requirements for the medication. It is the responsibility of the medication prescriber to provide the necessary documentation."

Utah Medicaid will also allow early refills of medications from February 6 through February 17, 2012. During this period the current system will allow a 4 to 5 day early fill option. This information is also being sent to all Medicaid clients.

Utah Medicaid recognizes that these black-out dates represent an unusual inconvenience in downtime. We ask for your patience during this conversion process. We gratefully recognize all that you do to serve Medicaid patients.

PDL Update

In September 2011, the Utah Medicaid Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee met and discussed the addition of the therapeutic class of Platelet Aggregation Inhibitors. In October 2011 Androgenic Agents were reviewed and in November 2011 Pulmonary Antihypertensives/Phosphodiesterase-5 Enzyme Inhibitors were examined. Look for these classes to be added to the 2012 Preferred Drug List coming in January 2012.