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Medicaid Alert

MA-2020-01

March 2020

TO: Physicians, Advanced Practice Nurses, Providers of
Pharmaceutical Services – **For Action**
Managed Care Organizations – **For Information**

SUBJECT: **COVID-19 and Ensuring Access to Prescription Medications**

EFFECTIVE: **Immediately**

BACKGROUND: The CDC considers COVID-19, otherwise known as the coronavirus, to be a serious public health concern based on current information. Although the health risk is low at this time, the World Health Organization, the CDC and the New Jersey Department of Health are closely monitoring the progress of the disease and issuing warnings as necessary to ensure the health and safety of the general public.

ACTION: The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS), the Division of Aging Services (DoAS) and the Division of HIV/AIDS, TB & STD Services, AIDS Drug Distribution Program (ADDP) shall ensure access to prescribed medications by making accommodations in the State's Point-of-Sale (POS) claims processing system. The following will be allowed if the pharmacist deems it appropriate when exercising their professional judgement:

- DMAHS/DoAS/ADDP will allow the dispensing of a ninety (90) days' supply of maintenance medications. This guidance does not apply to controlled dangerous substances. Please continue to comply with current New Jersey Board of Pharmacy regulations regarding the dispensing of controlled substances unless otherwise advised by the Board.
- Early prescription refills shall be permitted.

The DMAHS/DoAS/ADDP shall retrospectively review claims paid during the State of Emergency and recover any inappropriately paid claims.

If you have any questions concerning this Medicaid Alert, please contact DXC Technology Provider Services at 1-800-776-6334.

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