

PROVIDER BULLETIN

Volume 43 Number 16

<http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/>

January 13, 2021

Pharmacy Program Reimbursement

Applies to: Pharmacy Providers

Effective Date: February 1, 2021

CONTENTS

- **Professional Dispensing Fee**
 - **One Dispensing Fee Every 25 Days**
-

Professional Dispensing Fee

The MO HealthNet Division (MHD) adds a professional dispensing fee to prescriptions filled or refilled by pharmacy providers. On February 1, 2021, the professional dispensing fee amount will change from the current amount. Out-of-state pharmacy providers will receive a professional dispensing fee of \$8.85. In-state pharmacy providers will receive a professional dispensing fee of \$12.22, plus an adjustment to account for the cost of the Missouri Pharmacy Reimbursement Allowance attributable to Medicaid-reimbursed prescriptions. The professional dispensing fee plus the current adjusted amount will total \$13.84. In-state pharmacy providers will no longer receive a preferred generic product incentive fee. Long-term care pharmacy providers supplying covered drugs to participants in long-term care facilities will continue to receive an additional \$0.50 dispensing fee.

One Dispensing Fee Every 25 Days

The MHD is also changing the dispensing fee policy for maintenance medications from paying each time the medication is dispensed to allowing only one dispensing fee for a maintenance medication every 25 days. This will also begin on February 1, 2021. This means that the professional dispensing fee will be paid no more than once every 25 days for a participant receiving the same strength and dosage form of maintenance medications.

Maintenance medications are drugs taken on a regular basis for an ongoing condition such as, but not limited to, diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, cholesterol, or asthma. Such drugs include but are not limited to long-term therapies and supplements such as vitamins, fiber, and laxatives, etc. The MHD uses the First Databank (FDB) MedKnowledge package maintenance drug indicator to determine if a drug is a maintenance medication.

During the first 25 days, a dispensing fee may be paid on each claim to allow for dosing adjustments for new maintenance drug therapies. Claims for maintenance medications receiving a refill too soon override will receive a professional dispensing fee. In the event that the maintenance medication is not refilled within 60 days, the dispensing fee determination process will start over.

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>). Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

MO HealthNet News: Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the MO HealthNet card or by calling the Provider Communications Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-751-2896 and using Option One for the red or white card.

**Provider Communications Hotline
573-751-2896**