



**TO: Pharmacy Providers**  
**RE: Medicare D Coverage of Benzodiazepines and Barbiturates**

This bulletin notifies pharmacy providers of important changes that will become effective January 1, 2013 for HUSKY Health and CADAP clients who have Medicare Part D Prescription drug coverage.

Effective January 1, 2013, Medicare is revising coverage of Part D drugs to include: 1) barbiturates when used for the medical indications of epilepsy, cancer, or chronic mental health disorders; and 2) benzodiazepines. As a result, for dates of service on or after January 1, 2013, the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program will cost-avoid prescriptions for benzodiazepines and barbiturates for clients that have a Medicare Part D prescription drug Plan (PDP).

Pharmacies will no longer be able to submit claims for barbiturates and benzodiazepines directly to HP for payment for clients with Medicare D coverage. Prescriptions with dates of service on or after January 1, 2013, submitted directly to HP without first being submitted to the client's PDP, will deny for EOB 2803 with an error message of: *Med D covered drug – bill Medicare first.*

**Please note:** pharmacy claims for *barbiturates* which are denied by Medicare Part D with any rejection code **other than** the following will be denied for EOB 0820 with an error message of: *Reject code not accepted for TPL billing:*

- **3Y** – Prior authorization denied
- **70** – Product/service not covered
- **75** – Prior authorization required
- **80** – Drug/diagnosis mismatch
- **MR** – Product not on formulary

**Please note:** pharmacy claims for *benzodiazepines* which are denied by Medicare Part D with any rejection code **other than** the following will be denied for EOB 0820 with an error message of: *Reject code not accepted for TPL billing:*

- **3W** – Prior authorization in process
- **3Y** – Prior authorization denied
- **70** – Product/service not covered
- **75** – Prior authorization required

