



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor – Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor – S. Anthony McCann, Secretary

Office of Operations, Eligibility & Pharmacy
Medical Care ProgramsJoseph E. Davis
Executive Director**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Pharmacy Transmittal No. 177

July 12, 2005

Pharmacies
Managed Care Organizations

FROM: Joseph E. Davis, Executive Director
Office of Operations, Eligibility and Pharmacy

NOTE: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.

RE: **Changes to Pharmacy Co-payment for Prescriptions**

Effective August 1, 2005, the Maryland Pharmacy Program is changing the pharmacy co-payment on certain Medicaid fee-for-service prescriptions. The pharmacy co-payment for brand name drugs not on the preferred drug list will increase from the current \$2.00 per prescription to \$3.00 per prescription. The pharmacy co-payment for generic drugs and brand name drugs on the preferred drug list will not change and will remain at \$1.00 per prescription. Children under 21 years old, pregnant women or recipients in a nursing home will not be charged a co-payment. Also, there is no co-payment for prescriptions for family planning drugs. The pharmacy may not deny services to Medicaid recipients unable to pay the co-payment.

The above changes do not apply to prescriptions paid by managed care organizations. They will be responsible for instructing pharmacies on their individual payment methodology.

The co-payment for the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program remains \$2.50 for generic drugs and brand name drugs on the preferred drug list and \$7.50 for brand name drugs not on the preferred drug list. The co-payment for prescriptions under the Maryland Pharmacy Discount Program is not changing and is 65% of the Medicaid allowed amount. Pharmacies are not required to fill prescriptions for recipients unable to pay this co-payment.

Questions concerning this transmittal should be directed to the Division of Pharmacy Services, 410-767-