

## Medicare Rx Update: December 1, 2006

### Reminder: Special Pharmacy Training is Monday...

CMS will be hosting Coordination of Benefits training at a Special Pharmacy Open Door Forum (ODF) on Monday, December 4, 2006 at 2 PM EST. The covered topics will include the new E1 functionality, Medicare Part B versus Part D, Plan-Pharmacy Standardized Claims Messaging, Beneficiary Cash Purchases (Lower Cash Price Policy), Correcting Beneficiary Co-payments Using Best Available Data, Special Transition Period for Retroactive Medicaid Enrollments, Clarification of TRICARE Coverage, Patient Assistance Programs, and Part D References. Training slides are available now at [www.cms.hhs.gov/pharmacy](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/pharmacy).

To participate by phone dial 1-800-837-1935 and reference conference ID 2228370. Note: TTY Communications Relay Services are available for the Hearing Impaired. For TTY services dial 7-1-1 or 1-800-855-2880 and for Internet Relay services click here <http://www.consumer.att.com/relay/which/index.html>. You may listen to an encore recording of this call that can be accessed by dialing 1-800-642-1687 and entering the Conference ID beginning 2 hours after the call has ended. The recording will expire after 3 business days.

### ... And One E1 Change Becomes Effective Today

While most of the [E1 changes](#) will not take effect until software vendors are able to upgrade their systems to support the Enhanced E1 functionality, one change to the existing E1 service is effective today. Click here for the link to E1 changes:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Pharmacy/Downloads/EnhancedE1TipSheet.pdf>

Pharmacists searching the Cardholder ID field (Medicare Part A/B ID, Social Security Number (SSN) or Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) number) must also input a minimum of the first four letters of the Last Name for a match to occur. If the first four letters of the Last Name are not provided in the request the existing E1 response will be "NON MATCH MEMBER ID" even if the submitted Cardholder ID information is correct.

This new functionality will reduce the number of false positive E1 responses. However, in the short run, pharmacists may receive "NON MATCH MEMBER ID" messages if they omit the required last name characters.

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