

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
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North Dakota Medicaid program agrees to settlement with Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

BISMARCK, N.D. - The North Dakota Department of Human Services has agreed to accept a \$240,199 settlement with Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

The settlement is part of a \$95.5 million agreement the drug manufacturer reached with the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units. The settlement resolves allegations that the company knowingly misreported best prices for anti-inflammatory nasal sprays Azmacort, Nasacort, and Nasacort AQ.

Of the state settlement, the North Dakota Department of Human Services will receive approximately \$108,089 for the Medicaid program, and the federal government will receive about \$132,110.

North Dakota's Medicaid program is funded by both the federal government and the state. It provides health services to qualifying low-income elderly individuals, pregnant women, children, and people with disabilities. In April 2009, 56,162 North Dakotans were eligible for Medicaid.

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