

Walgreens/Happy Harry's Ending Participation in DE Medical Assistance Programs

As a result of the 2010 fiscal shortfall, the State has implemented cost saving measures, one of which impacts the rates paid to physicians and other health care providers, as well as pharmacies, for services provided to individuals enrolled in Medicaid and other state medical assistance programs. Consequently, Walgreens/Happy Harry's has made the decision to terminate participation in the State's medical assistance programs and will no longer fill prescriptions for those enrolled in Medicaid, Delaware Healthy Children Program, Delaware Prescription Assistance Program, Chronic Renal Disease Program, and Delaware Cancer Treatment Program. **This will be effective July 6, 2009.**

The Delaware's Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) is communicating to patients how to transfer their prescriptions and are advising patients to:

- 1) Simply take your prescription bottle to your new pharmacy and ask to have your refills transferred; or
- 2) If you do not have your prescription bottle, you may ask your doctor's office to call in the prescription for you at your new pharmacy. Please understand that your doctor's office may be experiencing a high volume of calls at this time, so please be patient. You do not have to call your doctor before July 6th to transfer your prescriptions, you simply need to select a new pharmacy.

MSD has been in close contact with the DMMA in an attempt to convince them that advising patients to contact their physician would place an undue burden on the physician's office and has also suggested alternative procedures and wording of this language. Unfortunately, MSD was unable to sway the outcome of the June 11th communication that is being sent to physicians and patients. DMMA is providing with the letters a complete list of participating pharmacies which will honor Medicaid prescriptions. To view the letters and the list of participating pharmacies, please visit the MSD website at www.MedicalSocietyofDelaware.org. This information is also on the DHSS website at www.dhss.delaware.gov.

Questions regarding this transition may be referred to EDS Provider Relations at (800) 999-3371. The Medical Society will continue to monitor this situation and work closely with DMMA to relay further concerns of our members.