



January 2007

## ATTENTION PHARMACISTS

Pharmacy  
Bulletin  
07-001

- Effective March 1, 2007 the EqualityCare Pharmacy Program will not longer allow certain Over-The-Counter (OTC) medications to be billed through the regular pharmacy point-of-sale (POS) system. These products are not listed as covered OTC products in the EqualityCare Provider Manual under Pharmacy Services, but due to coding issues these products passed through the POS system. In order to clean up the system and maintain program integrity, the coverage of these products will be closed through the POS system. Many of these products, however, are covered through the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) program, so (DME) providers can still continue to bill for those covered DME products through the DME program.

These OTC products no longer billable through the pharmacy POS system include:

Acidophilus Products  
Hemorrhoidal Treatments (Tucks, Anusol, etc.)  
Hygienic Cleansing Products (Wipes, Pads, etc.)  
Walkers & Walker Accessories  
Cotton Swabs  
Oral Syrniges & Medicine Dispensers  
Vitamins Other than Calcium & Iron Supplements  
Lactose Digestive Aid Products  
Support Hose, Socks, Pants, etc.  
Any type of Bandage (Elastic, Adhesive, etc.)  
Cranberry Products  
Thermometers & Thermometer Covers

**NOTE:** At this time diapers will continue to be paid through POS system.

- When filling prescriptions for CLIENTS PRESCRIBED ZYBAN OR BUPROPION FOR SMOKING CESSATION, please be sure to use the generic bupropion that is a DIRECT generic to Zyban. Our disease management program will be working with clients who wish to quit smoking. These clients are identified through the review of claims for smoking cessation products. Clients will NOT be identified as those using a smoking cessation product if Wellbutrin or its generic bupriopion are used. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in this matter.



- WHEN CONTACTING ANY OF THE ACS HELP DESKS, PLEASE BE SURE TO NOTE, AT THE VERY LEAST, THE DATE AND NAME OF THE PERSON ASSISTING YOU. IF YOU HAVE AN UNSATISFACTORY OUTCOME WITH THE HELP DESK REPRESENTATIVE, WE ARE BETTER ABLE TO TRACK THE SOURCE OF THE PROBLEM AND GET RESOLUTION OF THE MATTER MORE EFFECTIVELY, IF WE ARE PROVIDED WITH AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE. THIS NOT ONLY BENEFITS YOU, BUT IT BENEFITS ALL PHARMACIES.
- The Office of Pharmacy Services is currently working with ACS on a system's change that will allow for the identification of branded generics. Because the coding of these drugs does not allow the system to identify them as generics, you will see claims for generics processing with a \$ 3.00 co-pay. Until the system is fixed, you may call the ACS PA Help Desk at 1-866-556-9320 to get overrides for generic drugs processing with a \$ 3.00 co-pay. We understand that this is an inconvenience, and we appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Please look for a bulletin in the near future on the resolution of this matter.