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Agency of Human Services

Medicaid Copay Clarification

A recent pharmacy alert issued on 1/31/14 advised pharmacies incorrectly that if the beneficiary owed a copay from a previous prescription, “pharmacies may tell the beneficiary that any later prescriptions may not be filled if the beneficiary does not pay what is owed.” The DVHA would like to clarify that prescription services **cannot be denied** for a Medicaid member who does not pay their co-pays. Although members are expected to make co-payments under Medicaid, if the member states they are unable to make the payment, **Medicaid providers may not deny services**. Per section 1916(c) of the Social Security Act, "no provider participating under the State [Medicaid] plan may deny care of services to an individual eligible for [Medicaid] on account of such individual's inability to pay (the copayment)." We apologize for this misprint and confusion it may have caused.

Thank you for your continued support of the State of Vermont’s pharmacy programs.

Sincerely,



Nancy Hogue, Pharm.D.
Director of Pharmacy Services

