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"Important Notice: New Pharmacy Care Management (PCM) Program to be launched 11/28/2016"

Dear Medicaid Provider,

The Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA), in conjunction with Change Healthcare, will be rolling out a new Pharmacy Care Management (PCM) program on **11/28/16**. The Vermont Medicaid PCM program is a new program intended to provide increased management of both high-cost drugs and patients who have overall high pharmacy costs in order to optimize adherence, minimize adverse events, and improve clinical outcomes. The clinical staff at Change Healthcare will review Vermont Medicaid data to identify high cost members and medications, which will lead to individualized interventions. The interventions will not only be patient-centric but will also include provider participation. The clinicians at Change Healthcare will be looking at medication adherence, proper medication utilization, FDA approved durations, indications, dosing and proper monitoring.

DVHA has analyzed many recent high cost therapies, and has identified frequent issues with adherence, discontinuation, and lack of proper monitoring. This has led to a significant concern regarding the potential loss of clinical benefit due to an incomplete therapy course or, in some cases, medication waste. The cost of pharmaceuticals over the next few years is expected to rise dramatically with the release of new biosimilar medications, oral oncology medications, hepatitis C, cystic fibrosis, and many other new specialty medications. The expectation is that there will be a rising number of highly specialized medications that are used to treat a relatively small number of Vermont Medicaid members. These medications are expected to represent a significantly larger percentage of the total cost of the pharmacy benefits program; some are expected to cost as much as \$400-\$800 thousand dollars per member each year.

Over the next few weeks, a small number of members, prescribers, or pharmacies may be contacted by a Change Healthcare clinical pharmacist to be involved in this pilot PCM program. Our goal will be to work with you and the Vermont Medicaid member to be certain that the drug is taken as intended and that the medication is used and monitored appropriately. Please contact Laurie Brady at 1-844-679-5362 or PBA_VTHelpdesk@changehealthcare.com if you have any questions about this new program.

Thank you for your continued support of Vermont's clinical pharmacy programs.

Nancy J. Hogue, BS, Pharm.D.

Director of Pharmacy Services