

## Effective Medication Therapy Management Programs (MTMPs) for Medicare Beneficiaries

### ASHP Urges Congress to:

- Add a requirement for an annual **medication therapy review and assessment by a pharmacist**.
- **Include pharmacists as providers under Part B.** In addition, those Medicare beneficiaries who either do not participate in Part D, or do not qualify for MTM services under Part D, may be referred by a physician to a pharmacist for MTM. These services would be reimbursed under Medicare Part B.

### Background:

- The Medicare Part D program requires that drug plan sponsors offer MTMPs to improve prescription drug use and outcomes among certain high-risk patients with multiple chronic conditions and taking multiple medications.
- Only seven percent of Medicare beneficiaries receive Medication Therapy Management under Medicare Part D.
- Medication therapy management (MTM) has been defined as distinct services that optimize therapeutic outcomes for individual patients, encompassing a broad range of professional clinical activities. These services are essential to ensuring an appropriate return on the significant investment being made to ensure drug coverage.
- Documentation and payment for MTM services provided by a pharmacist under this proposal would utilize applicable CPT codes for pharmacist-provided services.
- MTM services include:
  - Formulating a medication treatment plan,
  - Monitoring and evaluating the patient's response to therapy,

- Performing a comprehensive medication review to identify, resolve and prevent medication-related problems, and
- Coordinating and integrating MTM services within the broader healthcare management services being provided to the patient.

### How Congress Can Help

Several basic elements that should be a part of any MTMP include:

- **A once-yearly medication regimen review and assessment by a qualified pharmacist.** This should be a face-to-face interaction between the patient and pharmacist and include documentation of the assessment and recommendations to be communicated to the beneficiary, primary care provider and the Prescription Drug Plan to enhance coordination of care.
- **All Part D enrollees, except for those in extended or long-term care facilities, should be eligible for the service** and could either self-refer or be referred for MTM by a licensed healthcare professional authorized to prescribe or dispense drugs under applicable state practice acts.
- **Make the benefit analogous to the “Welcome to Medicare” medical visit.** This visit should be covered on an annual basis due to the dynamic nature of beneficiaries' medication regimens over time.
- **Medicare Part B enrollees would be eligible to receive MTM services of a qualified pharmacist,** whether or not they are enrolled in Medicare Part D, upon referral of a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe medications.