

Legislative Principles

An Effective Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Benefit for Medicare Beneficiaries

Modifications to Part D coverage of MTM:

- Enhance the scope of the current MTM program requirement of PDP's and MA-PD's to include in such programs a once-yearly medication therapy review and assessment by a pharmacist, with documentation of the encounter and recommendations for improving the outcomes, safety, and cost-effectiveness of the beneficiary's medication regimen. Such assessment and recommendations would be communicated to the beneficiary, the primary care provider(s) involved in the beneficiary's care, and the PDP/MA-PD to facilitate enhanced quality of care.
- All Part D enrollees [with the exception of beneficiaries receiving care in a long term care facility as defined in Section 1819 (a) of the Social Security Act or an institution for which payment is made under section 1902 (q)(1)(B) of the Medicare Modernization Act] would be eligible for the annual medication therapy review whether or not they will or are expected to meet the criteria for any other services within the PDP's/MA-PD's MTM program.
- Eligible beneficiaries may self-refer or be referred for the annual medication therapy review by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe medications under applicable state practice acts. The beneficiary may select a pharmacist provider of choice who is contracted with the beneficiary's Part D plan to conduct the annual medication review.
- The annual medication therapy review benefit is analogous to the "Welcome to Medicare" medical encounter and is consistent with a new HEDIS 2009 measure for such services for certain Medicare health plan enrollees. It would be a covered benefit on an annual basis due to the dynamic nature of beneficiaries' medication therapy over time.

MTM services to be covered under Part B:

- MTM services of pharmacists are authorized for payment in Medicare Part B for:
 - Medicare beneficiaries not enrolled in Medicare Part D (MTM services could include the annual medication therapy review);
 - Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Part D but who do not meet or are not expected to meet the eligibility criteria for MTM services required under their Part D plan, but who are referred for MTM services by a licensed health care professional authorized to prescribe medications under applicable state practice acts (MTM services do not include the annual medication therapy review provided under Part D).

(over)

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- Documentation and payment for MTM services provided by a pharmacist under this legislation would utilize the applicable CPT codes for pharmacist-provided MTM services approved by the AMA CPT Editorial Panel.
- MTM services under this legislation would not include any professional or technical activities required by statute or regulation as part of the act of dispensing a new or renewed prescription order.

Comparative Effectiveness Evaluation

- The Secretary would be required to conduct a study of the effectiveness of MTM services provided to targeted beneficiaries under the provisions of Medicare Part D compared to MTM services provided under Medicare Part B to Medicare beneficiaries who do not meet the inclusion criteria established by the Secretary under Medicare Part D.

1. Medication Therapy Management Services - definition and program criteria. Consensus document of 11 national pharmacy organizations. July 2004.



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