

January 2010

2010 Pharmacy News and Updates, including Medicare Part B Drugs

Announcing our new Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM)

UCare is pleased to announce that effective Jan. 1, 2010 our PBM will be changing to Express Scripts, Inc. (ESI) for all UCare beneficiaries. ESI will replace CVS Caremark (formerly RxAmerica). All covered new and refill prescriptions, including mail-order, should be processed through ESI.

Changes to Medicare Part B Drugs

All *UCare for Seniors* members have Medicare Part B drug coverage. *UCare for Seniors* plans that are affected by this are: Value, Value Plus, Classic, and Group.

Part B drugs are covered under Part B (medical insurance) of Original Medicare and are generally administered at a doctor's office (e.g. Remicade for arthritis). In limited cases, Part B drugs are dispensed at a pharmacy. In either case, Part B drugs are part of a member's medical expense – not their prescription drug expense.

Many members get Part B drugs when they get their preventive flu and pneumonia vaccines each year. Other more common Part B drugs include:

- Diabetic supplies.
- Certain chemotherapy drugs.
- IV drugs and other drugs that are normally self-administered.
- Inhaled respiratory drugs.
- Allergens.
- Antitoxins/Antivenins.
- Hemophilia clotting factors.
- Heparin flushes.

In 2010, there is a 20% co-insurance for Part B prescription drugs. We added the co-insurance to keep the *UCare for Seniors* premiums low. **Please note that the 20% co-insurance does not apply to some Part B drugs, including immunizations, such as the seasonal flu vaccine and the H1N1 vaccine, pneumonia vaccines, and diabetic supplies/test strips/lancets.**

Claims for Part B drugs that are provided by a health care provider (e.g. doctor's office) should be sent to UCare on a medical claim form. Claims for Part B drugs that are provided by pharmacist should be billed to ESI.

The out-of-pocket maximum is \$3,400* in 2010 for medical expenses. If the member reaches the out-of-pocket maximum, their covered medical services will be covered at 100% (of the allowable) for the remainder of the calendar year. The out-of-pocket maximum excludes Medicare Part D, Point-of-Service, eyewear, hearing aids, dental, transplant services, and chiropractic services.

If you have any questions, please call our Provider Assistance Center at 612-676-3300 or 1-888-531-1493 (toll free) 7 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

*Group *UCare for Seniors* out-of-pocket maximums may vary.