

## Reduction of Benefits Notice

(For Medical Assistance Managed Care and ACCESS Plus Recipients)

### Important Information about Your Drug Coverage and other Health Care Coverage for Individuals Who Receive Both Medicare and Medical Assistance

**You will soon become eligible for Medicare coverage, including Part A, Part B and Part D. Medicare will become your primary medical coverage.**

The Department of Public Welfare has been notified that you will be eligible for Medicare benefits on \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

**I receive Medical Assistance and will soon be eligible for Medicare. How will I receive prescription drug coverage?**

Individuals who have both Medicare and Medical Assistance must get most of their prescription drugs through a Medicare Part D prescription plan. Once you become eligible for Medicare Part D benefits, Medical Assistance will only cover limited prescriptions for you. Medical Assistance will still be your secondary insurance coverage for other health care services, including doctor visits, durable medical equipment (like wheelchairs, walkers, and crutches) and medical supplies (like diapers, underpads, and diabetic syringes).

**Regardless of your age, you will now use your ACCESS Card instead of your managed care plan member identification card to pay for the following types of prescription drugs that are not covered by Medicare Part D:**



- Barbiturates – This includes drugs like Phenobarbital and Seconal;
- Benzodiazepines – This includes drugs like Ativan (Lorazepam) and Diazepam;
- Some over-the-counter drugs;
- Drugs prescribed for cough and colds for children under 21 years of age;
- Certain Vitamins & Minerals – This includes:
  - Vitamin D products like Drisdol and Calciferol;
  - Folic Acid products like Folvite; and
  - Vitamin B-12 injections.

**If you need any other prescription drugs besides those listed above, you must get them through your Medicare Part D Plan or through Medicare Part B. For more information on what you must do to join a Medicare Part D prescription plan and to obtain prescriptions and other health care services under Medicare Part B or to contact Medicare, please read the attachment “Very Important Information About Getting Prescription Drugs Under Medicare Part D and Other Health Care Services Under Medicare Part B”.**

For questions about the prescription drugs that your ACCESS Card will cover, please contact the Medical Assistance Call Center at 1-866-542-3015 (TDD/TTY 1-877-202-3021).

**I receive both Medical Assistance and Medicare. How do I receive physical health benefits?**

Individuals receiving both Medicare and Medical Assistance will get their Medical Assistance physical health benefits through the Fee-For-Service System (the ACCESS card). Once you are on Medicare, you will no longer be in HealthChoices (managed care) or ACCESS Plus for your physical health coverage.

**I receive both Medical Assistance and Medicare, how do I receive behavioral health benefits?**

Your HealthChoices Behavioral Health Managed Care Plan will not change.

**I receive Medical Assistance and will soon be eligible for Medicare. How will my Medical Assistance coverage change?**

On the first day of the month following the date you are eligible for Medicare benefits, your Medical Assistance coverage will change in the following ways: If you are age 21 or over:\*

- You will no longer be in HealthChoices (Managed Care) or ACCESS Plus for your physical health coverage;
- You will now use your ACCESS Card instead of your managed care plan member identification card to pay for physical health care services covered by Medical Assistance; and
- You will still get your Behavioral Health Services covered by your HealthChoices Behavioral Health Managed Care Plan.
- If you currently get your behavioral health services through an ACCESS card, you will continue to use your ACCESS card to pay for your behavioral health services covered by Medical Assistance.
- Medicare will pay for most of your prescription drugs.

**\*PLEASE NOTE: This change does not apply if you are under 21.**

## WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- KEEP YOUR ACCESS CARD.
- Enroll in a Medicare Part D prescription plan that covers your drugs and works with your pharmacy.

Ask your Medicare Part D prescription plan if you will have to:

- Get new prescriptions to refill prescription drugs that you previously got with your ACCESS Card.
- Get new authorizations to refill prescription drugs that you previously got with your ACCESS Card.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

You should call **1-800-MEDICARE** (1-800-633-4227) (TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048), if you have questions about:

- Medicare Part D prescription plan options
- Prescription drugs covered under Medicare
- Participating Medicare pharmacies
- Participating Medicare doctors

You can also find information on the Medicare Web site at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

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## YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL AND TO A FAIR HEARING

You have the right to request an appeal if you think this change is wrong, but you will have a hearing only if you think the law does not apply to you or if you think we do not have the right facts about you. If you ask for an appeal because you think the law is wrong, your appeal will be decided without a hearing. If you want to appeal this action, please read the back of this letter.

Regulations: 42 U.S.C. 1396 u-5  
55 Pa. Code 275.1