

February 13, 2008

# Montana Healthcare Programs Notice

## Physicians, Mid-Level Providers, Dentists, Pharmacies, Inpatient and Outpatient Hospitals, RHCs, FQHCs, and Indian Health Services

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### Tamper-Resistant Prescription Pads

The federal law requiring written Medicaid prescriptions to be on tamper-resistant pads will be implemented on April 1, 2008, by H.R. 3668, the “TMA, Abstinence Education, and QI Programs Extension Act of 2007.”

The Department, in accordance with CMS guidance, will require that a Medicaid prescription pad contain at least one of the following characteristics beginning April 1, 2008:

- One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form;
- One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information written on the prescription by the prescriber, or
- One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms.

Beginning October 1, 2008, a written Medicaid prescription must be written on a tamper-resistant prescription that contains all three characteristics.

The Department advises prescribers to take this time to obtain supplies of tamper-resistant prescription pads for their Medicaid prescriptions. The Department will continue to update the list of tamper-resistant prescription pad vendors on its website at <http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov/providerpages/prescriptions.shtml>.

For providers who elect to seek out their own vendors, the Department is available to evaluate these tamper-resistant prescription pads upon request to ensure compliance with published guidelines.

Please direct any questions regarding this notice to the following personnel: Physician and Mid-Level Providers: Denise Brunett at (406) 444-5778; Dentists: Jan Paulsen at (406) 444-3182; Pharmacy Providers: Wendy Blackwood at (406) 444-2738; Hospitals: Debra Stipcich at (406) 444-4834; Indian Health Services and Ambulatory Surgical Center providers: John Hein at (406) 444-4349; Critical Access Hospitals and RHC and FQHC providers: Bob Wallace at (406) 444-7018.

## Contact Information

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations:

**Provider Relations toll-free in- and out-of-state: 1-800-624-3958**

**Helena: (406) 442-1837**

**E-mail: [MTPRHelpdesk@ACS-inc.com](mailto:MTPRHelpdesk@ACS-inc.com)**

Visit the Provider Information website:

**<http://www.mtmedicaid.org>**