

LIHP/CMS Pharmacy Network – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) - Pharmacies:

CHANGES TO THE LOW INCOME HEALTH PROGRAM (LIHP) AND COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICE (CMS) PROGRAM'S NETWORK OF PHARMACIES

When will changes to the LIHP and CMS pharmacy network take place?

The new LIHP/CMS pharmacy network will begin on April 22, 2013. All enrollees have been notified of this date and will be required to start using a listed, in-network pharmacy. As of May 6, 2013, LIHP/CMS will no longer pay for any medication fills from a non-network pharmacy.

Why are the LIHP and CMS programs changing their pharmacy network?

The LIHP and CMS programs have always utilized their community health centers' network of registered 340B pharmacies. However, the programs also allowed individuals to get their medication prescriptions filled at other pharmacies throughout the county. As part of a greater effort to stretch scarce resource dollars, the county has made a recent decision to maximize the use of its covered entities' registered 340B pharmacies. This change will help the County and its LIHP and CMS clinical network providers to continue to provide the excellent health care services currently provided to enrollees.

Why weren't we included in the LIHP and CMS pharmacy network?

All 340B registered pharmacies within the county that contract with a covered entity providing care to the LIHP and CMS populations were included in the pharmacy network. Some additional non-340B registered pharmacies were included to ensure appropriate access to medications based on factors such as geography and hours of operation.

How do we become part of the LIHP/CMS pharmacy network?

If you desire to become part of the pharmacy network, you will need to become a contracted, registered 340B pharmacy through an eligible entity. The Community Health Centers who serve the LIHP and CMS population are eligible entities. A list of them can be found at the County's websites in the provider handbook under the LIHP and CMS primary care clinics' listing:

<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hhsa/programs/ssp/documents/LIHPProviderHandbookApril2013.pdf>

<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hhsa/programs/ssp/documents/CMSProviderHandbookApril2013.pdf>

Who needs to become a registered 340B entity?

All network non-340B pharmacies and non-network pharmacies who want to become a part of the pharmacy network will need to become a 340B registered pharmacy.

When do I need to become a registered entity?

A pharmacy who wants to be part of the LIHP and CMS pharmacy network will need to become a registered 340B entity during the next open registration period of July 1 – July 15. Once you

are registered, you will become eligible to the LIHP and CMS pharmacy network starting October 1, 2013.

If our pharmacy is not part of the LIHP/CMS pharmacy network, and an enrollee gets his/her medication filled here, how can I get reimbursement?

If an enrollee fills his or her medication at a non-network pharmacy on and after May 6, the pharmacy will not be eligible for payment for the prescription from the LIHP or CMS program.

What if a LIHP/CMS enrollee comes into our pharmacy to fill a medication and can't, how can I direct him/her?

During business hours, the LIHP/CMS enrollee can be directed to call his/her customer service number at 1-800-587-8118 for assistance in finding a network pharmacy near them. At anytime, the LIHP/CMS enrollee can access a listing of network pharmacies at the LIHP or CMS County websites.

Was notification sent to participating pharmacies on this change?

Notification was sent to pharmacies by Catamaran, the pharmacy benefits manager, via fax blast.

Is the change in participation due to a transition to 340B processing? If so, is this a mandatory change or do patients have a choice?

Yes, the LIHP and CMS pharmacy network will eventually be only 340B registered pharmacies. All LIHP and CMS enrollees will need to get their prescriptions filled at a network pharmacy in order for the LIHP and CMS programs to cover the cost of medications.

What is the process to reinstate participation in the LIHP and CMS programs for pharmacies?

Pharmacies will need to contract with a 340B covered entity such as a community health clinic that is contracted to provide care to LIHP and CMS enrollees. The covered entity is required to register the pharmacy during an open enrollment period. Next open enrollment is July 1 – July 15. Once a pharmacy becomes registered, it can contact the LIHP/CMS provider line at 858-658-8650 and request to be added to the pharmacy network. Pharmacies registered in July will be added to the network October 1, 2013. For more information on becoming a registered pharmacy, refer to the HRSA website at <http://www.hrsa.gov/opa/index.html>.

Is there any editing or claims blocking in place by the plan's Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM), Catamaran?

On and after May 6, claims from pharmacies out of the network will be denied by the PBM.