



TO: Outreach Partners and Interested Parties  
FROM: **Prescription Advantage**  
Date: October 31, 2008

## **BULLETIN**

### **2009 Prescription Advantage Plan Changes**

Due to the current nationwide fiscal situation, and its impact on Massachusetts, it is necessary to impose significant budgetary restrictions on the Prescription Advantage program. These restrictions will result in changes to the assistance Prescription Advantage members receive with their co-payments.

**Effective January 1, 2009**, for members in categories S2, S3 and S4, Prescription Advantage will not provide co-pay assistance until members have reached the coverage gap (donut hole) with Medicare. In 2009, the coverage gap is reached when the total retail cost of a member's covered prescription drugs is \$2,700.00. Once the coverage gap is reached, Prescription Advantage co-payment assistance will begin at the same levels as 2008. For members with Creditable Coverage, co-pay assistance will also begin when the total retail cost of their covered prescription drugs is \$2,700.00.

**For members eligible for Medicare all other benefits will remain the same, as described below:**

- The income cap continues to be 500% of the FPL.
- There will be no changes to co-payment assistance for members in categories S0-S1.
- There will be no changes to the premium assistance for categories S1 through S3.
- All membership categories will continue to have an Out-of-Pocket Spending Limit. Note: The annual increase to these limits will become effective January 1, 2009.
- Benzodiazepines will still be covered for all active members.

There are no changes to benefits for members not eligible for Medicare. A letter will be mailed to members affected by these changes within the next two weeks.

**If you have questions or concerns please contact Prescription Advantage Customer Service at 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636).**