

February 2007

Dear Member:

Medco manages your prescription drug benefit for your health plan. We were asked to notify you of important safety enhancements being made to your prescription drug benefit.

An increasing number of individuals are finding themselves dependent on several medications, now or perhaps one day in the future. However, not everyone is aware of the potential for adverse interactions. Medco has in-house pharmacists – more than 2,400 – and sophisticated computer systems monitoring your prescriptions and guarding against a variety of potential problems. Every time you fill a prescription, you tap into a network of pharmacists who are constantly looking out for your health and safety.

To prevent potentially harmful, even fatal, side effects and medication interactions, PCCD has asked Medco to enhance our computerized monitoring system to further protect you and your family.

Beginning March 1, 2007, the following alerts will be incorporated into your plan:

- **Severe Drug Interaction Alert:** This alert compares the incoming medication to all active drugs the patient is taking to determine if there is a drug(s) that will severely interact (cause an unsafe or fatal reaction) with another medication the patient is taking.
- **Maximum Daily Dose Alert:** This alert identifies a prescription claim that is being filled for greater than the clinically recommended maximum dose per day. Doses higher than the recommended dose can be unsafe or possibly fatal.
- **Refill Too Soon Alert:** This alert calculates the amount of medication a patient should have on hand in order to prevent waste, stockpiling and exposure to potentially dangerous amounts of medication.

If one of these alerts occurs for a medication you are taking, your pharmacist may need to contact your physician for approval to dispense the current medication or to discuss an alternative.

In addition, your plan will implement the **Retrospective Drug Utilization Review (RDUR) health and safety program beginning March 1, 2007**. Medco may provide information to your doctor about potential prescribing or medication utilization issues. These include situations in which similar and overlapping medications appear to have been prescribed for the same condition, or when medications may interact with each other in a way that could be harmful to your health.

The information we provide to your doctor is intended to help ensure that you get the safest and most effective therapy possible, especially when more than one doctor is involved in your care. A change in your prescription(s) can sometimes result from these communications between Medco and your doctor.

If you have any questions about this or other aspects of your prescription drug benefit, please visit us online at www.medco.com or call Member Services at 1 800 818-0093.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barney Gallassio". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end.

Barney Gallassio
Vice President, Member Services