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BULLETIN 09-16

Date: June 25, 2009

To: Insurers, Nonprofit Health Service Plans, and Health Maintenance Organizations
Using Pharmacy Benefit Managers

Re: Updated List of Registered Pharmacy Benefit Managers

The purpose of this bulletin is to remind carriers (insurers, nonprofit health services plans, and health maintenance organizations) that are using Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) that §15-1606 of the Insurance Article prohibits a carrier from entering into an agreement with a pharmacy benefits manager that has not registered with the Commissioner.

While PBMs that were providing pharmacy benefit management services prior to the enactment of House Bill 419, Chapter 202, Acts of 2008 were permitted to continue to act as pharmacy benefits managers in the State without being registered during a transition period, this temporary transition period ends July 1, 2009.

A list of entities that have registered with the Commissioner as PBMs is available on the MIA website at <http://www.mdinsurance.state.md.us/sa/documents/PBMlist06-09.pdf>. If a carrier uses a PBM that is not registered with the Commissioner after July 1, 2009, the carrier will be in violation of Insurance Article, §15-1606, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Questions about unregistered PBMs should be directed to the Melissa Ham in the Examination and Auditing Section of the Maryland Insurance Administration at 410-468-2110.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda A. Wilson".

Brenda A. Wilson
Associate Commissioner
Life/Health Section