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## INFORMATIONAL NOTICE

**DATE:** March 25, 2009

**TO:** Participating Pharmacy Providers

**RE:** Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration

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Effective February 01, 2009, the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS), along with the Department of Human Services and the Department on Aging, began transition of eligible and willing persons from long-term care facilities back into their communities through the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration. It is important that clients transitioning to the community are able to access their medications, and remain consistent on their medication regimen.

Each MFP client will have a Transition Coordinator who is responsible for coordinating all aspects of their transition from the facility to the community. HFS is asking long-term care facilities, Transition Coordinators, and pharmacies to work together in order to ensure that persons entering the community have their medications available on the day of discharge.

It is the Department's policy that long-term care facilities release a client's remaining medications when the client is discharged from their facility. This helps to ensure continuity of their medication regimen upon their return to the community. Please reference the following link regarding the release of medications upon discharge from a long-term care facility.

<http://www.hfs.illinois.gov/html/071105rts.html>

It is extremely important that all MFP clients are discharged with their medications. However, if the client is being discharged from a facility without their medications, the Transition Coordinator will coordinate the filling of their medications at a community pharmacy. About five to seven days before discharge, the Transition Coordinator will send the MFP client's prescriptions to their community pharmacy, along with a letter verifying the client's participation in the MFP waiver program. The letter will note the client's date of discharge.

Once the pharmacy receives the prescription, the pharmacy should request an override of any Refill-Too-Soon (RTS) edits, to ensure the medications can be dispensed on the day of discharge, if the client would happen to enter the community without their medications. This request may be made ahead of time, and does not have to be done on the day of pick-up.

The RTS prior approval request form can be accessed at:

<http://www.hfs.illinois.gov/assets/hfs3082a.pdf>

The form should be fully completed and faxed to 217-524-7264 or 217-524-0404, along with a copy of the letter from the Transition Coordinator documenting that the client is an MFP waiver participant. All RTS prior approval requests will be granted for MFP participants entering the community. However, the Department will follow up with the long-term care facility that did not provide the client with their remaining medications to ensure that the facility discharges patients with their medications in the future.

Questions regarding this notice should be directed to the Bureau of Pharmacy Services at 1-877-782-5565 Option 7.

/s/

Theresa A. Eagleson, Administrator  
Division of Medical Programs