



## Transferring Membership – the Hidden Dangers of P2P

Bringing new participants into your plan is crucial to the lifecycle of your plan. However, the plan to plan (P2P) reconciliation process of prescription drug payments is difficult and time consuming for any PACE organization. When your plan receives the information directly from CMS, the reports that they generate are far from user-friendly. Sifting through the information can be a real struggle and takes a significant amount of staff time.

Despite these data difficulties, this is an area that CMS monitors regularly. If your PACE plan misses payments, CMS responds directly. Avoiding this type of interaction with federal oversight is always preferable.

Pharmastar offers its clients access to monthly P2P assistance and reporting. Our specialized team manages the direct data received from CMS and transfers it into an understandable and functional product that your staff can easily use. In addition, Pharmastar provides clients with pre-generated invoices to streamline the payment and settlement process – without CMS intervention.

## Are You Effectively Managing Drug Payment Guidelines?

Drug payments in PACE programs are a highly monitored and regulated process through CMS. According to regulations, any electronically adjudicated prescriptions from your pharmacies need to be paid within 14 days. With such a tight window of opportunity to meet these requirements, the room for error is significant.

If your PACE plan does not meet these federal timeline requirements, you might face not only fines from CMS for the oversight, but will also be saddled with paying retroactive interest on all overdue payments for their participating pharmacies. Between these two penalties, the financial impact of this error during a CMS audit could be devastating for your organization.

To alleviate the burden of the ongoing monitoring and management required to keep up with paying drug invoices, Pharmastar provides its clients with a weekly drug cost invoice. Each week, PACE organizations around the country receive a convenient invoiced listing of all of the prescriptions incurred over the course of the past seven days. In addition, a plan simply provides the overall invoice amount to Pharmastar who then distributes out the appropriate amounts to each pharmacy.

This service not only saves PACE plans precious time and resources, it also prevents the potential of costly fines and interest payments that could result during a CMS audit.

## Saving Money and Resources with Data, Reporting and Consultation

The risks associated with CMS audits uncovering errors originating from your pharmacy benefit program are significant and could have a devastating impact on your overall PACE plan operations. With limited resources available to you, finding trustworthy partners that will help you mitigate financial and operational risks is critical.

In addition some of the reports identified above, Pharmastar offers its clients a comprehensive toolkit of reports, data analysis and consultation that can further enhance your plan's pharmacy benefit program. Some of these reports include:

Month Of Service	Ingredient Paid	Dispense Fee Paid
01/13 Total	\$ 15.49	\$ 1.50
02/13 Total	\$ 7.04	\$ 8.00
03/13 Total	\$ 188.11	\$ 8.00
04/13 Total	\$ 0.18	\$ 1.50

**Drug Utilization Reviews.** Providing you with a breadth of information on your generic drug use trends, per member per month (PMPM) costs and over the counter utilization, the data found in this monthly report is central to understanding the next strategic steps in moving your pharmacy benefit program forward. In addition, Pharmastar offers consultation calls with a clinical pharmacist to review your monthly data and pick out the most important trends your plan could address.

**Full Claims Database.** Your data should always belong to you. The monthly full claims database provided by Pharmastar ensures you always have access to all of your data. This enables your team of professionals to query, analyze and respond to your full database of prescription information. This report enables you to access

all of your rejected, accepted and reversed claims. Each field contains a full listing of 25 different data elements, giving your plan a true and complete understand of your prescription drug usage.

**Potential Over-utilizer Report.** On a federal level, Medicare Part D plans are asked to report any over-utilizers they identify internally. Clients of Pharmastar automatically receive ongoing support in this arena with a monthly over-utilizer report. This enables PACE plans to be proactive in these discoveries, often prior to receiving this same data via Acumen, a contractor of CMS. Through the regular reporting and managing of this data, PACE plans are well situated in the event of a CMS audit.

When a PACE plan undergoes a CMS audit, there is an abundance policies and procedures that are under tight scrutiny. Often, the costly mistakes identified in this paper are the result of simple oversight or misunderstanding of the requirements in a pharmacy benefit program. While these errors are not ill-intentioned, PACE plans face serious consequences when these issues are uncovered by CMS.

PACE plans that partner with a pharmacy benefit manager, like Pharmastar, will find reassurance and guidance through the expertise and attention of our specialists. Plans, such as Riverside and Blue Ridge PACE find that Pharmastar's knowledge and guidance is an important part of their program.

"I cannot say enough good things about my working relationship with Pharmastar. I have found them to be prompt, courteous, and helpful. They have certainly made my job duties related to part d less stressful. Pharmastar is a company willing to go the extra mile. They make sure you have what you need, you understand what is being requested of you or what you are being given and that you are in compliance."

**Courtney Berg**

*Business Manager, Riverside and Blue Ridge PACE*

## Looking for More Information? Contact Pharmastar.

For more information on how the reports and guidance provided through Pharmastar may be able to help your PACE plan in managing CMS audits and mitigating financial risks to your plan, we encourage you to contact us. We're looking forward to learning more about your PACE plan and how we can work together to prepare your pharmacy benefit program in the event of CMS audits.

**Call us at 888.298.7770 Today!**