





Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**  
**Hospital Transmittal No. 270**  
**Managed Care Organization Transmittal No. 135**  
**Pharmacy Transmittal No. 208**  
**Physician Transmittal No. 146**  
**Nurse Practitioner Transmittal No. 24**  
**Physician Assistant Transmittal No. 4**  
**Federally Qualified Health Centers Transmittal No. 15**  
**Local Health Departments Transmittal No. 10**  
**October 9, 2019**

To: Hospitals  
 Managed Care Organizations  
 Pharmacies  
 Physicians  
 Nurse Practitioners  
 Physician Assistants  
 Federally Qualified Health Centers  
 Local Health Departments

From: Athos Alexandrou, Director  
 Office of Pharmacy Services 

Jill Spector, Director  
 Medical Benefits Management 

Re: Carve-In of the HIV/AIDS Medications Effective January 1, 2020

**Note: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.**

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Effective January 1, 2020, MCOs will be responsible for processing and paying all claims for HIV/AIDS medications for their members. This change will affect all of the medications that are under American Hospital Formulary Service (AHFS) Classification 8:18.08 (Antiretrovirals).

Please note that from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 there will be a “soothing period” during which the MCOs will continue their members’ existing antiretroviral therapy under Medicaid Fee-for-service (FFS) without changes. New patients placed on antiretroviral therapy

during the soothing period will be subject to the MCOs' HIV/AIDS medication prescribing requirements.

**For Pharmacies:**

When processing pharmacy claims, please utilize the appropriate BIN, PCN, Group ID, and Cardholder identification numbers based on the patient's individual MCO plan as is currently done for other covered medications. For a full listing of all the BIN/PCN/Group ID information, please go to the online provider manual, page 9: <http://www.mdrxprograms.com/ooep.html#CI>

**For Prescribers:**

MCOs will work collaboratively with you and your patients during the soothing period to ensure that HIV medication regimens are appropriate and in line with drug coverage options on their respective formularies. When the soothing period ends, prior authorization may be required for certain medications.

If prescribers or pharmacies have any questions about this transmittal, please call the Pharmacy Access Hotline at 1-800-492-5231, option 3. If MCOs have questions, please contact Pam Williams at [pam.williams@maryland.gov](mailto:pam.williams@maryland.gov).