

**CMS Special Open Door Forum Listening Session:
Current Standards of Practice for Pharmacy Services
Provided to Medicare Beneficiaries Residing in Long-Term Care Facilities**

Tuesday, November 16, 2004
1:00-3:00 PM (Eastern Time)

Section 107(b) of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 stipulates that the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress by June 2005, on a study to Review and Report on Current Standards of Practice for Pharmacy Services Provided to Patients in Nursing Facilities.

CMS has just awarded a six-month contract to conduct this study, Review of Current Standards of Practice for Pharmacy Services Provided to Medicare Beneficiaries Residing in Long-Term Care Facilities. The contractor is tasked with gaining an extensive and critical understanding of current standards of practice for pharmacy services provided to beneficiaries in long-term care settings. In addition, the contractor will conduct a critical analysis of the financing and delivery issues that should be considered to ensure the safe and effective provision of the Title I Part D drug benefit to beneficiaries in nursing facilities, in a manner consistent with the current standards of practice and at a reasonable cost to the Medicare program and the taxpayer.

CMS is holding this Special Open Door Forum Listening Session, to hear from various stakeholders regarding long-term care pharmacy standards of practice and the issues that may be involved in the implementation of the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit in these types of facilities.

The areas of concern raised will vary depending upon the nature of each stakeholder's role in the long-term care industry. CMS is interested in holding this public forum to help identify the relevant topics needed to be considered for the study, and to allow interested parties to both hear and be heard by other members of the healthcare industry. The study is specifically focused on the nursing facility setting, although input at this forum regarding pharmacy issues applicable to other types of long-term care settings may be useful.

As a listening session, CMS will not be responding to the individual comments or concerns raised, but will rather utilize the time permitted to help ensure that the most complete set of concerns is identified. Please keep in mind that this Special Listening Session is not intended to gather input related to the overall implementation of the new Part D prescription benefit, and will remain focused on the role of pharmacy in the long-term care setting alone.

Open Door Participation Instructions:

There are 2 ways to participate, by phone or "in-person".

1. To participate by phone:

Dial: **1-800-837-1935** & Reference Conference ID: **1710525**

Persons participating by phone do not need to RSVP.

Note: TTY Communications Relay Services are available for the Hearing Impaired. For TTY services dial 7-1-1 or 1-800-855-2880 and for Internet Relay services click here <http://www.consumer.att.com/relay/which/index.html>.

A Relay Communications Assistant will help

2. To participate in-person:

If you intend to participate in person, **RSVP is required:**

Please send a reply to this email by close of business Friday, November 12th to SpecialODF@cms.hhs.gov.

Please include "**LTC Pharmacy**" in the subject line of your message, and send us the following information:

- a) Your full name
- b) Your organization or representation
- c) Your contact information (phone and email)
- d) Special needs information

Location information:

ADDRESS:

CMS Single Site Building
Auditorium
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Map & Directions: <http://cmsnet.cms.hhs.gov/hpages/ocsq/cmsdirections-north.htm>

ENCORE: 1-800-642-1687

"Encore" is a recording of this call that can be accessed by dialing 1-800-642-1687 and entering the Conf. ID #**1710525**

The recording begins 2 hours after the call ends on Tuesday, November 16th and expires after 4 business days.

For automatic emails of Open Door Forum schedule updates (Listserv registration) and to view Frequently Asked Questions please visit our website at: www.cms.hhs.gov/opendo