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# New Ventures

*A newsletter for YHP Medicare Participants*

December 2004

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## **From the YUHS Pharmacy . . . Medicare Participants: benefit year ends December 31st**

- Prescriptions at the YHP Pharmacy must be picked up within two weeks after the date they are filled. Prescriptions not picked up within that period are returned to stock.
- To be credited to the current benefit year, prescriptions must be filled by December 31st. This means that if you call in a prescription before December 31, but do not pick it up within two weeks it will be returned to stock. The prescription will have to be reprocessed in January and the cost will be charged to the new benefit year that begins on January 1. Please plan ahead if you want to assure that prescriptions you need during this period are credited to the current benefit year. Because of volume at the end of the benefit year, waiting until the last minute may mean that a prescription may not be filled on or before December 31. Also, some medications may be temporarily out of stock or require clinician authorization. So if you know what your prescription needs are, please get the request into the Pharmacy at least several days before December 31.

- Please note that we cannot provide extra quantities of medications or fill prescriptions early. So if, for example, you obtain a three-month medication supply in November, you cannot obtain another three-month supply in December. Rarely, an exception may be made in unusual circumstances. If you anticipate making a request of this nature, please do so several weeks before the end of the benefit year.

Questions . . .

Call the Pharmacy at 203.432.0033.

## **Blood Pressure Monitoring Program**

The Office of Health Promotion and Education conducts monthly blood pressure screenings at various campus locations (consult the YUHS web site for dates and places) for YHP members who are not currently being treated for a blood pressure problem. Members who have been diagnosed and are under treatment for hypertension are monitored in the Internal Medicine Department (203-432-0038) by appointment (Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm). To arrange for a blood pressure screening at your Yale University location, please call Ellen Budris at 432-7601.

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## **Yale University Retiree Prescription Benefits to be Administered By Medco**

The Yale University Benefits Office has recently made changes in the administration of the University's subsidized benefits for retirees. Currently, Yale University Health Services (YUHS) serves as the Third Party Administrator for all eligible retirees.

Effective January 1, 2005 Yale University will partner with Medco, a leading pharmacy benefit management company, to administer the pharmacy benefit for Yale retirees.

Yale Health Plan pharmacy will be a participating in this network. If they use a pharmacy that is part of the Medco network, retirees will only have to pay their deductible and co-insurance at the time of purchase; if they use a pharmacy that is not part of the Medco network, they will have to pay full cost and submit claims to Medco.

Yale Health Plan pharmacy will no longer be able to make adjustments or adjudicate prescription costs at 100% after a stay in the hospital or a one-day surgery. Retirees that

have prescriptions filled after a hospitalization or outpatient surgery will have to pay the deductible and/or coinsurance at the time of purchase, and then submit a claim along with proof of hospitalization or outpatient surgery to the Yale University Retiree Processing Center.

The Yale Retiree Processing Center will process all claims for the year 2004 and will continue to process the claims for Surgical Stockings, Medical Social Services, Physician Costs in Excess of Approved Medicare Charges, Eligible Laboratory Tests, Home Health Services and Nursing Services. Claims will be honored for one year from the date of service.

Please review the Yale University Retiree Major Medical Summary which the Benefits Office mailed out in November for a complete description of these benefits. If you need assistance or need claim forms you may contact the Yale Retiree Processing Center at 203-432-7513.

### **Important phone numbers**

Medicare/Retiree Coordinator	203-432-8134
Yale Retiree Prescription Administrator - Medco	1-800-230-0508
Yale Retiree Major Medical Administrator - Yale Health Plan	203-432-7513
YUHS Toll-Free Number (U.S./Canada)	1-877-947-2273
Member Services	203-432-0246
Internal Medicine	203-432-0038
Pharmacy	203-432-0033
Yale Benefits Office	203-432-5550
Social Security	1-800-772-1213
Medicare (enrollment/replace card)	1-800-772-1213
ITT Hartford* (billing/claims issues)	1-800-368-3653
American Financial Services* (to replace ITT Hartford cards)	203-949-1738

\*Identify yourself as a Yale Retiree, group AGP-1816

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