Medicare’s Limited Income NET Program

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NCOA Southern/Southeastern Regional Conference
May 8-9, 2018 Atlanta, GA
Medicare’s Limited Income Newly Eligible Transition Program (LINET)

**LINET** is a CMS Demonstration program that provides temporary prescription coverage for Medicare beneficiaries who qualify for Low Income Subsidy (LIS) and have no prescription drug coverage

- Must have Medicare and Medicaid or LIS
- Provides immediate prescription coverage at the pharmacy counter
- Enrollment is processed by claim submission
- Limited pharmacy network restrictions
- No premiums - LIS based copay
- Coverage usually lasts about two months
- Retroactive reimbursement may be available for out-of-pocket expenses
Program Goals

- Increase medication adherence & health outcomes for vulnerable populations – particularly during transition from Medicaid to Medicare
- Reduce cost of care related to poor med adherence during transition
- Improve beneficiary experience as they navigate into a new healthcare system

LINET Enrollments

- 725,000 enrollments in 2017
- >5 million enrollments since program inception
- Growing at ~ 8% per year YOY
• On 2/1/2018 LINET implemented two types of limits for opioid prescriptions
• Part of national effort to curb the opioid epidemic and dispensing abuses
• Others enacting limits/guidelines on opioid prescribing:
  – 24 states as of 12/2017
    • 13 states have legislation introduced for 2018 consideration
  – 46 States Medicaid departments
  – Most major insurers
  – Drugs store chains such as CVS & Walgreens
LINET Opioid Limits – New for 2018

• 30 Day Supply Limitation
  – Maximum day supply that can be submitted on claim is 30

• Morphine Equivalent Dose (MED)
  – Beneficiaries can be prescribed multiple opioids which vary in strength and dosing
  – To accurately measure, opioid dosing is converted to a standard value called morphine equivalent dose
  – The edit limits opioid dosing based on cumulative daily dosing a patient receives

  – *Note: Pharmacies should follow the regulations of their particular state, if those are more restrictive than the 30 day limit*
Exceptions for LINET:

- Diagnosis of cancer
  - Can be through point-of-sale logic or approved through coverage determination exceptions process

- Requesting an exception:
  - Exceptions can be requested by calling the LINET Help Desk
  - 1-800-783-1307

- Exceptions can be requested by:
  - Providers
  - Pharmacies
  - Beneficiaries

- Providers will be asked to provide additional information to help make a determination
LINET Days Supply Limitation – New for 2018

- Days supply limited to 60 days for all medications
  - Had previously allowed 90 days supply
- Went live on 2/8/2018
- Average enrollment in LINET <60 days
- Aligning the days supply with the average length of enrollment will reduce overall program costs
- No complaints received from Beneficiaries or Pharmacists
LINET Updates – New Medicare Cards

• LINET began accepting/receiving MBIs on 4/1
• No major issues have been reported
• LINET will be able to utilize both the HICN and MBI during the transition phase which is an 18 month period
  – Critical for LINET which relies on HICN and now MBI
  – Most plans use unique member ID assigned by the plan
• Things to emphasize with beneficiaries:
  – Keeping their address current with SSA
  – Having or know their HICN or MBI
    • We can no longer provide this information over the phone
For More Information

• LINET Advocacy Line: 1-866-934-2019
  – State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIPs)
  – Caseworkers, Ombudsmen and other advocates
• LINET Help Desk: 1-800-783-1307
  – Beneficiaries
  – Pharmacies
• Online: www.Humana.com/LINET
  – Web module for Advocates
  – Documents available:
    • LINET program brochure
    • Four Steps for Pharmacy Providers
    • Frequently asked questions
    • Free continuing education for pharmacists and pharmacy techs
• Email:
  – LINET mailbox: LINEToutreach@Humana.com
Questions?
Thank you for your interest in LINET