December 30, 1992

MEDICAID DRUG REBATE PROGRAM Release No. 5

* * IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED * *



NOTE TO: All Participating Drug Manufacturers

NEW DISKETTE PROGRAM WITH DATA FILE INCLUDED

All Manufacturers:

Enclosed is a revised diskette program (Version 2.0) that must be used by labelers currently submitting their drug data via diskette. Early in 1993, we will be mandating its use by those labelers submitting their data via paper where the number of NDCs exceeds 5.

In addition to the new version of the program, the diskette contains a copy of your master file even though your company may not be submitting your data via diskette. This is an opportunity for you to verify that data such as the Unit Type, UPPS, DESI Code Indicator and quarterly price fields are correct. The data include all prices and base line information submitted through the third calendar quarter of 1992.

Accompanying this letter is a summary sheet (blue paper) and a self-addressed stamped (franked) envelope (SASE). You must complete the summary sheet, place it in the SASE and mail it to us as soon as you have completed it.

Electronic and Paper Submitters:

If you wish to change to submitting your data on diskette, do it now! Inform us in writing of your intentions and specify the calendar quarter (93-1 or later) in which you will make the change. REMEMBER TO FILL OUT ONLY THE TOP PORTION OF THE BLUE SUMMARY SHEET.

Current Diskette Submitters:

Install this program ONLY AFTER you have read the installation and "after" installation instructions. The revised (new) diskette program is to be used for all submissions beginning with the 93-1 calendar quarter. It is extremely important that you read both the "Installation" and "After Installation" instructions that are included with this note.

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The procedure for this revised diskette program is contained in the 50 page guide that we have included with this letter. After you complete your 92-4 update and send your diskette to HCFA, <u>TURN OFF YOUR OLD SYSTEM AND RE-DO YOUR 92-4 UPDATE ON THE NEW (VERSION 2.0)</u> SYSTEM. Please read the guide before running the program.

REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE <u>ENTIRE</u> SUMMARY SHEET BEFORE YOU PUT IT IN THE SASE FOR MAILING.

Paper Submitters:

If you do not have access to a microcomputer, call us at (410) 966-3249 and we will send a hard copy listing of your drug product data to you.

If the number of NDCs belonging to your company exceeds 5, you should prepare to submit your data to us via telecommunications or by using the diskette program enclosed with this package. If you do not have a microcomputer and will need to contract for this service, we can put you in touch with other drug companies that use contractors to create and submit the drug product data to HCFA. MAKE YOUR DECISIONS EARLY. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT.

Please continue to refer your questions to us by calling the drug rebate hotline at (410) 966-3249.

Christine Nye Director Medicaid Bureau

Enclosures

cc: Regional Administrators, HCFA