

## **ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES FOR REPACKAGING OF PRESCRIPTONS**

Repackaging by provider pharmacies or consultant pharmacists for patients in Long Term Care Facilities who receive medications in packaging which does not conform to the medication distribution system, chosen by the facility, is appropriate under these guidelines:

1. Medication is delivered to the facility or the repackaging pharmacy so storage and handling under USP Guidelines is assured.
2. The dispensing pharmacy provides the manufacturer's original lot number and expiration date; or
  - a) If no lot number is provided, an alternate number will be assigned by the repackaging pharmacy. If there is a recall of medication dispensed without the original lot number, the recall will affect all of the named drug.
  - b) The repackaging pharmacy will assign an expiration date not more than six (6) months from the date of dispensing by the original pharmacy, or the original expiration date, which ever is shortest.
3. A log must be kept by the repackaging pharmacy containing the following information:
  - a) Patient's name
  - b) Name, address and phone number of original dispensing pharmacy
  - c) The prescription number of the original dispensing pharmacy
  - d) Date of dispensing by the original dispensing pharmacy
  - e) Expiration date assigned by the original dispensing pharmacy, if available
  - f) The manufacturer's lot number or the number assigned by the original dispensing pharmacy, if available
  - g) The name of the product and identification of the manufacturer
  - h) The quantity of product received and repackaged
  - i) The prescription number assigned by the repackaging pharmacy
  - j) Lot number assigned by the repackaging pharmacy or indication that the manufacturer's original lot number was used.
4. The repackaging pharmacy is responsible for storage of the unused portion of the prescription, until redistribution to the facility.
5. Charges for repackaging can be borne by the original dispensing pharmacy or the facility, but cannot be included by the consultant or repackager as part of another service. These charges must be billed separately to avoid the appearance of kickbacks. Medicaid does not allow repackaging charges directly to the department by the pharmacy. The patient may not be charged separately, as the distribution system is a requirement of the nursing facility, and should be included in their rate. The cost is allowable by Medicaid on the facility cost report.
6. The repackaging pharmacist is the final decision maker as to whether the repackaging will be done, and the product utilized by the patient.