



To: All IEHP Medicare Providers & Medicare IPAs
From: IEHP – Provider Relations/Pharmaceutical Services
Date: August 20, 2020
Subject: **Real Time Benefit Tool (RTBT)**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule on May 16, 2019 that modernizes and improves the Medicare Advantage and Part D programs. These changes will ensure that Members have greater transparency into the cost of prescription drugs.

As part of the rule, CMS is requiring that each Part D plan adopt one or more RTBTs capable of integrating with at least one prescriber's ePrescribing system or Electronic Health Record (EHR) to provide prescribers complete, accurate, timely and clinically appropriate Member-specific real-time formulary and benefit information (including cost, formulary alternatives and utilization management requirements) by **January 1, 2021**.

IEHP will offer RTB service to assist prescribers with selecting the most appropriate and cost-effective treatment options for individual Members which can improve:

- Medication adherence
- Lower prescription drug costs
- Minimize beneficiary out-of-pocket Part D cost by highlighting the Member's financial responsibility for selected medications at the point of prescribing.

The RTB transaction response will also highlight clinical concerns such as:

- Prior Authorization
- Step therapy
- Quantity limits
- Duplicate therapy
- Drug interactions

When appropriate, the response may also include specific therapeutic alternatives that may be more cost effective. IEHP will make the service available for prescribers using DrFirst and Surescripts EHR systems starting on **August 24, 2020**.

Questions regarding the RTBT service should be directed to the Health Technology Vendor/Electronic Health Record system. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

As a reminder, all communications sent by IEHP can also be found on our Provider portal at: www.iehp.org > For Providers > Plan Updates > Correspondence.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact the IEHP Provider Relations Team at (909) 890-2054.