



CONTACT:

Janet Cabibbo

Amendola Communications for NCPDP

480-664-8412 ext. 15

jcabibbo@ACmarketingPR.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

340B Drug Pricing Program Webinar Announced by NCPDP

Educational webinar for drug manufacturers, pharmacists, payers and other stakeholders to maximize 340B benefit

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – August 9, 2012– The [National Council for Prescription Drug Programs](http://www.ncpdp.org) (NCPDP) is hosting an educational webinar on how new changes to its Telecommunication Standard will impact participants in the [340B Drug Discount Program](#) on Thursday, August 23, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. EDT. The Section 340B Drug Discount Program was created by the Public Health Service Act of 1992 and aims to support select federal grantees and hospitals by making drugs available to these safety net providers at deeply discounted rates. Use of the Section 340B Drug Discount Program has expanded sharply since 2010 due to revised rules governing the program's reach.

The complexity of the Section 340B Drug Discount Program has made administration a challenge for all trading partners: providers, payers and manufacturers. Recent changes to the NCPDP Telecommunication Standard will facilitate identification of claims for Section 340B drugs between providers and payers. Payers will then have greater ability to identify these claims for use in their rebate submissions to manufacturers.

“340B Information Exchange” will be presented by John H. Lynch III, Vice President of Operating Policy for Eaton Apothecary and will provide an overview of how the recent changes will allow trading partners to identify claims for Section 340B drugs using two different methods and how the methods are designed to work in unison with existing provider inventory and accounting methods that are unique to the Section 340B Drug Discount Program.

Specifically, the recent changes to NCPDP's Telecommunication Standard recognize that an ever-growing number of participants in the Section 340B Drug Discount Program utilize a virtual inventory with replenishment of non-Section 340B product with Section 340B drugs. Utilization of this model prohibits the identification of a claim's ultimate Section 340B status until retrospective eligibility is determined and replenishment has been completed - potentially days, months or years from the date of service. By separating the claim billing and the Section 340B identification into separate transactions NCPDP's standards now permit trading partners to solve many business problems associated with the span of time between a claim's submission and its classification as being billed for Section 340B drugs.

Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who register and attend the webinar may earn 1.0 hours of Continuing Education (CE) Credits from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). CE Credit is being provided by AmerisourceBergen.

For more information or to register for the webinar, please go to:

http://ncdp.org/meeting_webinar_info.aspx?ID=Web08232012.

About NCPDP

Founded in 1977, NCPDP is a not-for-profit, ANSI-accredited, Standards Development Organization with over 1,600 members representing virtually every sector of the pharmacy services industry. Our diverse membership provides leadership and healthcare business solutions through education and standards, created using the consensus building process. NCPDP has been named in federal legislation, including HIPAA, MMA, HITECH and Meaningful Use (MU) requirements. NCPDP members have created standards such as the Telecommunication Standard and Batch Standard, the SCRIPT Standard for e-Prescribing, the Manufacturers Rebate Standard and more to improve communication within the pharmacy industry. Our data products include dataQ™, a robust database of information on more than 75,000 pharmacies, and HCidea™, a database of continually updated information on more than 2 million prescribers. NCPDP's RxReconn™ is a legislative tracking product for real-time monitoring of pharmacy-related state and national legislative and regulatory activity. For more information about NCPDP Standards, Products, Educational Programs and Work Group meetings, go online at www.ncdp.org or call (480) 477-1000.

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