ATTN PHARMACISTS:

The Arkansas Kidney Disease Commission (AKDC) appreciates your pharmacy participating as a vendor for our program. As a matter of information please be aware of the following and share it with your staff.

The AKDC is to be utilized as a resource of last resort. **Clients are required to make use of all other available benefits/resources** including Medicaid, Medicare Part B & D, Veteran’s, private health insurance prescription coverage, and drug company patient assistance programs before requesting the AKDC to provide payment for allowable medications. Clients with private health insurance and Medicare prescription coverage are required to utilize that benefit as the primary payment source.

At this time, the AKDC will provide payment for up to **three (3) drugs per month**. This number is subject to change depending on funding. Pharmacies will be alerted in advance regarding any change in the number of drugs paid for by the program each month.

The AKDC has a restricted drug list and will only provide payment for medications listed on the formulary. The AKDC requires that over-the-counter drugs be considered and dispensed first. If over-the-counter drugs are not a reasonable option, then and finally, a brand name drug may be dispensed provided the drug(s) is on the AKDC formulary.

**The AKDC has 3 prior approved drugs that include Renvela, Fosrenol, and Sensipar.** The AKDC will issue a letter of prior approval for each drug with pharmacies requested to obtain a copy of the approval letter prior to dispensing.

**RENVELA** – The AKDC will only provide payment for the **800mg pills** of Renvela with the maximum number of pills the program can be billed not exceeding **270 pills** each month. In those situations where a client’s insurance will cover Renagel but not Renvela, the program can assist with the copayment. The AKDC will not provide payment for the full cost of Renvela.

**FOSRENOl** – The AKDC will only provide payment for the **1000mg tablets** of Fosrenol with the maximum number of tablets the program can be billed being 90 tablets each month.

**SENSIPAR** – The AKDC will only participate as a copayer. Clients are required to first utilize their prescription drug benefit before requesting the AKDC to provide copayment. **The AKDC’s participation in proving the insurance copayment for Sensipar cannot exceed 50% of the insurance allowable cost of the drug.** Any request for the full cost of Sensipar will be denied.

Please remember that a client’s approval to receive either Renvela, Fosrenol, or Sensipar will be included in the number of drugs available each month.

The AKDC can only participate in the purchase of immunosuppressant medications as a copayer. **The maximum amount the program will remit is 20% of the Medicare allowable rate.** A copy of the Medicare remittance statement is requested when the claim is submitted.

The AKDC requests that drug claims are submitted on the AKDC Prescription Drug Claim Form. A copy of the claim form will be provided upon request. Claims must be received by AKDC within one (1) calendar year from the date of service. The AKDC Prescription Drug Claim Form must be completed correctly and in its entirety. The amount charged is prior to any insurance billing. Subtotal the amount to indicate total paid by Medicare, Medicaid, and/or private insurance. Include the Client's AKDC copay, which is $2.00 per medication, then list the total charged to AKDC (subtracting the client's insurance and copay). The dispensing pharmacist must sign all claims submitted certifying that the medication(s) and supplies were necessary for the treatment of the illness reported, and that charges listed are net of applicable credits and copayments.

Three new drugs have been added to the Formulary (Auryxia, Velphoro and Veltassa). No prior approval is needed.

Program Manager

“Arkansas Rehabilitation Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to age, religion, disability, sex, race, color or national origin.”