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CMS SEEKS SAVINGS THROUGH CHANGES IN MEDICAID DRUG PAYMENTS

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a proposed rule that enacts a provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that seeks to make Medicaid reimbursement for medications more transparent and more closely aligned with what pharmacies pay for the drugs. In a press release, CMS states the rule will save states and taxpayers \$17.7 billion on prescription drugs over the next five years. The regulations would also increase the rebates paid by drug makers that participate in Medicaid and would establish rebates for drugs provided to enrollees in Medicaid managed-care plans. Comments will be accepted on the proposed rule until April 2, 2012, with a final rule scheduled for 2013.

Should you have any questions, please contact: Todd Selby at 317.977.1440 or tselby@hallrender.com; Brian Jent at 317.977.1402 or bjent@hallrender.com; or David Bufford at 502.568.9368 or dbufford@hallrender.com, or your regular Hall Render attorney.