



## SPECIALTY PHARMACY BENEFIT UPDATE – EFFECTIVE FOR AUGUST 1, 2010

Under your benefit plan, Diocese of Palm Beach members have access to Specialty Pharmacy medications. Specialty Pharmacy medications continue to increase in cost to both our members and the plan. Although these medications provide excellent medical outcomes and improved quality of life for those members who are utilizing them, the average cost of specialty injectables is \$2,000 per month and can range \$1,000 to \$25,000 per month. Often times these specialty medications can present both physical and financial challenges that can be difficult for our members to manage. As a result, the Diocese of Palm Beach has worked with RxEDO to provide additional assistance through Walgreens Specialty. The following information describes what a Specialty Pharmacy is, who should utilize the benefit and how to access the benefit:

### What is a Specialty Pharmacy?

A Specialty Pharmacy provides comprehensive services needed to *manage complex medication therapies*. The Specialty Pharmacy processes the medication and offers members the support of clinical pharmacists that can provide dose management expertise. Experienced pharmacists and nurses at the Specialty Pharmacy work with members on an individual basis to provide support and counseling, which includes answering questions about prescriptions and helping patients manage medication side effects.

### Who should utilize the benefit?

*This benefit provides specialized care for members undergoing therapy for highly utilized chronic and complex conditions, including:*

Hepatitis C	Multiple Sclerosis	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Psoriasis
Chemotherapy	Cystic Fibrosis	Growth Hormone Deficiency	HIV/AIDS

### How do members with complex medical conditions access the benefit through Walgreens Specialty?

RxEDO has chosen Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy to provide Specialty Pharmacy services. Walgreens Specialty offers patients support beyond their physician's office to facilitate the best possible therapy outcome. When ordering medication from Walgreens Specialty, patients receive overnight, private delivery of medication and calls to coordinate refills for improved compliance. In addition, specially trained pharmacists and nurses are available 24-hours a day for patient counseling on side effects, medication administration and clinical issues. The program is physician-recommended with a consistent 98% customer satisfaction rating.

You can immediately begin to use the Walgreens' Specialty Pharmacy as a Diocese Health Plan Member by following these simple instructions:

### How to Order:

1. Call Walgreens Specialty at 1.888.456.7274
2. Patients: please have the following information available when calling:
  - the original prescription
  - the doctor's contact information
  - pharmacy insurance card

### Walgreens Specialty will:

1. Contact the prescribing physician to confirm the prescription information
2. Process the prescription and determine lowest possible out-of-pocket expense
3. Coordinate insurance coverage and set-up delivery to the address of choice