



Division of Public Health Services

*Office of the Assistant Director
Public Health Preparedness Services*

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JANICE K. BREWER, GOVERNOR
WILL HUMBLE, INTERIM DIRECTOR

June 10, 2009

To: Arizona AIDS Drug Assistance Program Clients

Re: Reduction in services

Regretfully, we have to tell you about changes in the Arizona AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). Beginning July 1, 2009, Anti-Retroviral (ARV) and Opportunistic Infections (OI) HIV medications will be the only prescriptions available through ADAP.

Several reasons have prompted this change. There has been a cut in funding, an increase in the cost of services, and an increase in enrollment of new clients. Because we have so many new clients, we need to make sure we have enough money for everyone to get their HIV (ARV/OI) medications.

You can be sure that it was only after many meetings with doctors, pharmacists, and other ADAP clients that we came to this difficult decision. We decided it is the best way to make sure that clients get their HIV medications.

We understand how important the other drugs are (the ones you cannot get from ADAP anymore). ADHS staff is working hard with your community providers to offer information on other resources for you to get those medications. Additionally, your medical providers have been given information on this issue and will work with you to identify resources and coordinate your care.

For further information, contact the AIDS Drug Assistance Program at 602-364-3610, (800) 344-1540 or <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/hiv/adap.htm>.

Judy Norton
State AIDS Director
Office of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Services



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**Bureau of Epidemiology and Disease Control
Office of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Services
Ryan White Part B HIV Care and Services Program**

Revised AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Formulary July 1, 2009 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why is the ADAP Formulary being cut?

--Over the last year, the economy has gone down. Many people have lost their jobs, their health insurance, or their savings. Public assistance programs have less money available to help people. With no other options, more people have enrolled in ADAP. At the same time, the cost of medication has gone up.

Cutting the types of medicine available will help make sure there is enough money to provide life-sustaining medication for all people enrolled in ADAP for the entire year.

When will the changes happen?

--The revised ADAP Formulary will begin July 1, 2009 and continue until further notice. We will inform you of any further changes.

How long will the change in ADAP last?

--The change will continue until further notice. We will inform you of any further changes.

Will I still get my HIV meds?

--Yes, anti-retroviral medicines will still be provided to you. Medicines that prevent and treat opportunistic infections will also be available.

How will this affect me?

--You will still receive anti-retroviral medicines and medicines that prevent or treat opportunistic infections. But, after July 1, 2009, other medicines that you received through ADAP will no longer be provided.

How will I be able to get these medicines after July 1?

--We are working with community partners across Arizona to help you get information on how you can get the medicines you need. Some of you may receive information from other agencies to help you get your medicines. We will also provide information on our website and through the mail about patient assistance programs, generic drugs available at discount stores like Wal-Mart and Target, or medicines available for low prices at pharmacies like Walgreen, CVS, and The Apothecary Shops.

Have you told my medical provider?

--Yes, we sent information to medical providers about the change to ADAP. Your provider may talk to you about other places to get your medicines, about medication assistance programs, or work with you on prescribing you medicines that work like your current medicine, but are more affordable.

Will there be a wait list for ADAP?

--No. We are making these changes so we do not have a wait list. We want to make sure that all people living with HIV/AIDS who are eligible for ADAP can get life- sustaining medicines.

Who do I contact if I need more information?

--You can contact your case manager, your medical provider, a service agency, or ADAP. The number for ADAP is (602) 364-3610 or toll free at 1800-344-1540 or visit our website <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/hiv/adap.htm>.