



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
Bureau for Medical Services
Commissioner's Office
350 Capitol Street - Room 251
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Joe Manchin III
Governor

Martha Yeager Walker
Secretary

May 3, 2005

Dear West Virginia Medicaid Pharmacy Provider:

After many months of extensive testing and review, Unisys and the Bureau for Medical Services (BMS or Medicaid) are getting ready to implement the Unisys pharmacy claims processing system. Prior to turning the switch, we want to be sure that you, the stakeholders, are confident and that is why we at BMS insisted that pharmacies be included in the final testing phase that began April 28, 2005. If all goes well and BMS and stakeholders are satisfied that the system is working, we are targeting the week of May 16th for the pharmacy system transition. If, for some reason, we need to take a step back to modify the program, we will postpone implementation. However, we anticipate the date will be no later than the week of June 20th.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your patience during this period. I especially want to thank the pharmacies that are participating in our extensive testing and review. Like you, we want to be absolutely certain that this system can do the job it is supposed to do—prior to transition.

We have spent many months testing this system internally and remain committed to fixing all major bugs before moving the system into production. We believe we have a solid transition plan that includes extensive stakeholder communication and contingency planning. One key component for success remains – the readiness of pharmacies to participate in the re-implementation.

In the days leading up to implementation, Unisys will be communicating with you periodically with important information that will help you prepare for the transition. Also, please be aware that BMS will post pertinent information on our website, www.wvdhhr.org/bms.

Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy V. Atkins".

Nancy V. Atkins, MSN, RNC, NP
Commissioner