



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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### **IMPORTANT KIDNEY HEALTH CARE (KHC) PROGRAM BENEFIT NOTICE**

**If you are a Medicare recipient, your standard drug benefit with the Kidney Health Care (KHC) Program will end April 30, 2006.** Your current standard drug benefit covers up to four (4) prescriptions per month with a \$6 co-pay per drug product. If you are not eligible for Medicare, your standard KHC Program drug benefit will not change.

To make sure you do not lose your KHC Program drug benefits, you must do the following:

1. Apply to the Social Security Administration for extra help with the out-of-pocket costs you will have with this new Medicare prescription drug program. Call 1-800-772-1213 to request an application or apply online at <http://www.ssa.gov>
2. Choose and enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan by April 30, 2006. If you need assistance in applying for extra help, or with choosing a plan, call your renal or transplant social worker or your local Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-447-7169.

Depending on available funding and your level of extra help from Social Security, the KHC Program may assist and coordinate benefits with Medicare prescription drug premiums, deductibles and co-insurances.

KHC has changed the Part D Premium Benefit limitation with a retroactive effective date of January 1, 2006. KHC will now pay up to \$35.00 per month for Part D premiums. Prior to this change, this benefit was limited to the amount of the base plan options only. KHC assists with premiums for Stand-Alone Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs), and not the Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans (MA-PDs).

Please call the KHC Program at 1-800-222-3986 or your renal or transplant social worker if you have any questions about this letter.

Sincerely,

Sam B. Cooper III, MSW, LMSW  
Manager, Purchased Health Services Unit