The COEI Advisor

January 4, 2006

More on Medicare Part D:
Medicare's Prescription Drug Benefit is Here!

The original PowerPoint training presented by COEI, is posted on the COEI website. In addition to the information presented by COEI in the countywide, individual Service Area, and Office of the Public Guardian trainings, new information and clarification on the Medicare Part D benefit continues to be made available from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). COEI will keep you apprised as new information is posted.

As you know, clients with both Medicare and Medi-Cal lost their Medi-Cal prescription drug benefit on January 1, 2006 (except for medications excluded from Medicare Part D coverage) and now must use Medicare for their prescription drug coverage. In addition, they will now have a co-pay for each of their medications each time they pick them up at the pharmacy. Each client with both Medicare and Medi-Cal has been assigned to a Prescription Drug Plan (PDP or Plan) and has been sent this information by CMS.

If a client does not know which plan he or she has been assigned to, they can learn this information by calling 1-800-MEDICARE or when they take their prescription to their regular DMH contract pharmacy. The list of the pharmacies attached to each Prescription Drug Plan is posted on the COEI web site. The DMH contract pharmacies our clients usually go to have contracts with almost all of the Plans.

Each pharmacy has a direct link with Medicare and can obtain information about each client and their Plan. If a client goes to the pharmacy and discovers that a mistake was made and they were never assigned to a Prescription Drug Plan, the pharmacy can enroll them in a Plan (WellPoint) and they can obtain their medications while they are there.

You can access COEI's website at:

http://dmhhqportal1/sites/coei/default.aspx

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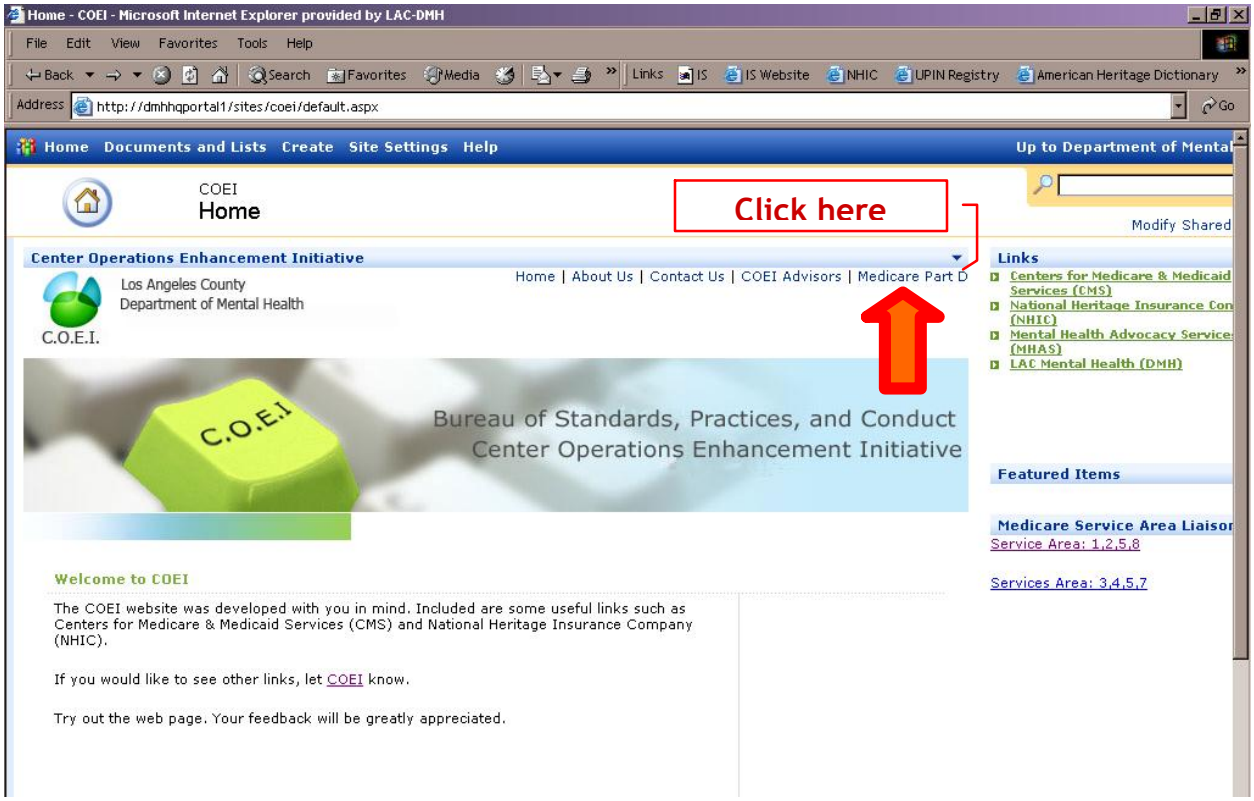
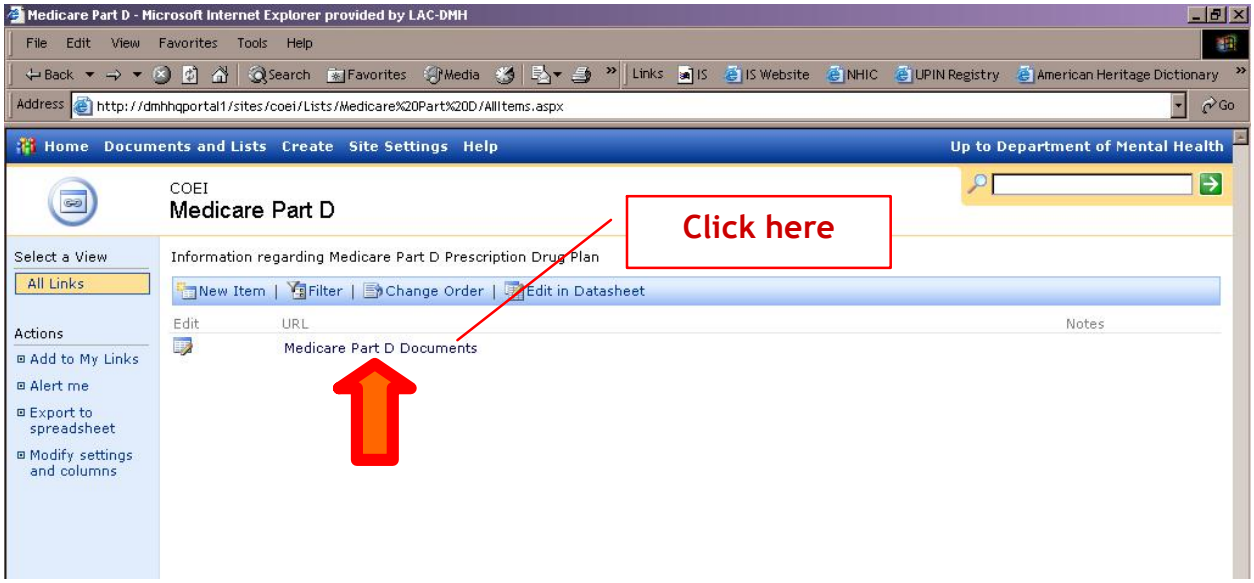


From the COEI home page, click Medicare Part D to find Medicare Part D documents.



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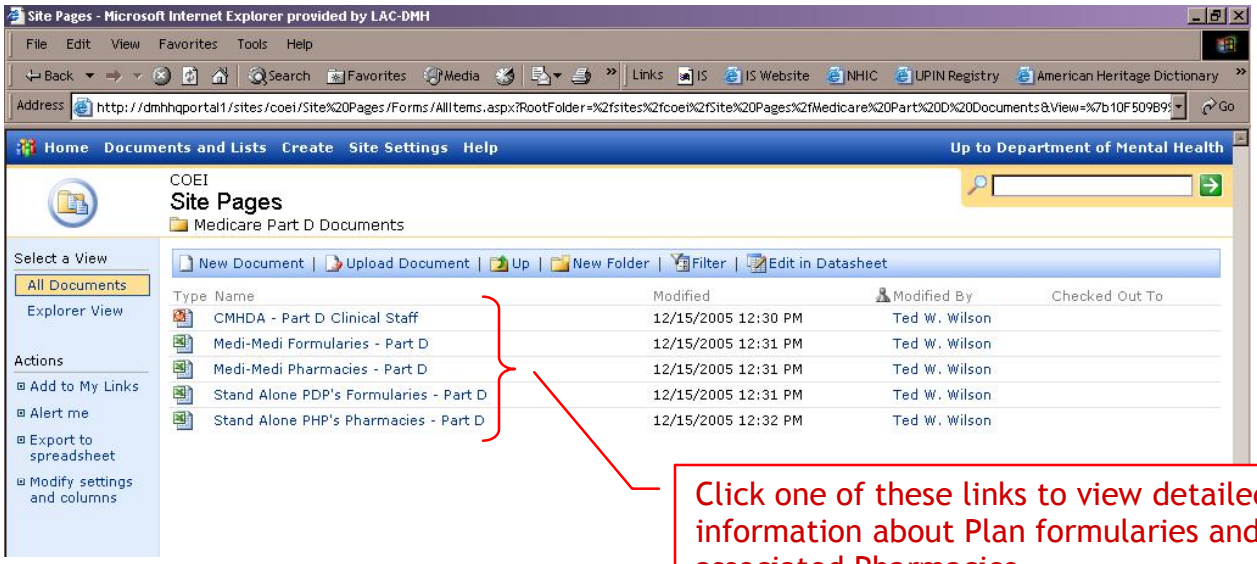

Click one of these links to view detailed information about Plan formularies and associated Pharmacies.

Questions? Need more info?

Contact:

- **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4887)**
- Local Pharmacies
- www.medicare.gov

Or e-mail your questions to DMHMedicare@lacdmh.org

Retain for Reference

DMH 06-01 1/4/06

For additional information, please contact

DMHMedicare@dmh.co.la.ca.us
or
COEI's Medicare Liaisons:

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