

Virginia Department for the Aging

INTERIM GUIDELINES

REVISED TITLE III-D

**The Addition of Medication Management, Screening, and Education
To Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Programs**

Issued March 2001

This Program Instruction provides guidance for implementation of the new requirement in Title III-D that Area Agencies on Aging must provide medication management, screening, and education services as part of their Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Programs. This program is not in the Act but is in the appropriations bill. It may or may not be funded in future years.

Target Population

Priority shall be given to older individuals who are in the greatest social and economic need and/or are residing in a rural or geographically isolated area.

Definitions

For the purposes of these interim guidelines, the following definitions are used:

- Medication Management - Information and education that helps older citizens understand how to take prescription, over-the-counter (OTC), and herbal medications in a safe and proper manner including following the regimen provided by their physician or pharmacist. Includes education about the use of devices such as pill boxes, pill cutters, and timers that assist persons to take their medication properly.
- Medication Screening - Includes the referral of older citizens to a physician or pharmacist for information and assistance with their medications. May include invitations to pharmacists to provide this information on an individual basis and/or in group settings.
- Education - Includes the provision of information to older citizens about prescription, OTC, and herbal medications including their common side effects, the dangers of mixing medications, and other issues related to medication management and screening. May include the development of brochures, videos, or other materials or resources that provide information about, or assistance with, the proper management of prescription, OTC, and herbal medications.

Purpose of the Program

The purpose of this program is to provide medication management, screening, and education services to prevent incorrect medication and adverse reactions to medications. This purpose may be achieved by providing services directly to older citizens as well as by providing information and/or training about medication management to family members, friends, and health care and human services professionals who work with or come into contact with older citizens.

Funding Restrictions

Agencies must allocate the additional funds received through Title III-D exclusively to the provision of medication management, screening, and education services.

Questions

Questions about these Program Instructions should be directed as follows:
Programmatic questions should be directed to Janet Honeycutt at 804-662-9341.
Financial questions should be directed to Warren McKeon at 804-662-9320.