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January 7, 2022

MEMORANDUM <u>MEMO NO.</u> FFS 22-01

TO: Physicians, Clinic Providers, Hospitals, and Free-Standing Ambulatory Surgical Centers

FROM: Judy Mohr Peterson, PhD

Med-QUEST Division Administrator

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ORALLY ADMINISTERED DRUGS TO TERMINATE A PREGNANCY

As discussed in Memo No. FFS 21-05, the Med-QUEST Division (MQD) covers oral medication for the medical termination of pregnancy through 70 days gestation.

MQD currently allows these medications to be mailed to the patient's residence during the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE). On December 16, 2021, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) announced that data has supported modification of the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) Mifepristone REMS Program. It was determined that to reduce the burden on patient access and the health care delivery system, the following modifications were made:

- Removing the requirement that Mifepristone be dispensed only in certain healthcare settings, specifically clinics, medical offices, and hospitals (referred to as the "in-person dispensing requirement").
- Adding a requirement that pharmacies that dispense the drug be certified.

MQD's policy is to follow FDA guidelines for pharmaceuticals, therefore MQD will remove the requirement to have the patient pick up the medication in person. Mifepristone may still be dispensed to patients in clinics, medical offices, or hospitals by or under the supervision of a certified prescriber.

Please refer to the FDA website in regard to other requirements that will still need to be met by the prescriber and pharmacy.