

40.3 – Payment *M*ethods

(Rev. 121, Issued: 04-22-16, Effective: 04-22-16, Implementation: 04-22-16)

The MA plan may not give enrollees money to purchase covered OTC items or drugs but may, for example: (1) reimburse enrollees for eligible purchases when receipts are presented; (2) allow enrollees to purchase OTC items through a plan catalog or list; or (3) issue a debit card that is electronically linked to eligible OTC items and drugs. The plan may establish a certain dollar amount that each covered enrollee may spend to purchase

covered OTC items and drugs on a per-month or per-year basis. The method (debit card, mail order etc.) by which enrollees are able to purchase covered OTC items and drugs is not part of the benefit and may be changed during the year with appropriate prior notification to enrollees and the MA plan's account manager to ensure the new method provides adequate access.

40.3.1 – Special Rules for Manual Reimbursement

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Every **MA** plan, independent of the payment method it chooses, must also allow – under circumstances which it describes (for example, when the debit card network is *not operating correctly*) – for manual reimbursement for the purchase of OTC items based on submitted receipts. The **MA** plan must indicate the forms and process (as well as the circumstances) by which manual reimbursement is allowed.