



*Medicare Part D Grant Program*  
*For*  
*Prescription Bone Disease Medications*  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. What is the process for utilizing the AKF pharmacy benefit card?

*Answer:* Patients should present the AKF pharmacy benefit card along with their Medicare Part D plan card at their local pharmacy for assistance with out-of-pocket expenses including; copays, deductibles and donut hole costs for their prescription bone disease medications.

2. Will my local pharmacy accept the AKF pharmacy benefit card?

*Answer:* The card may be used at most local pharmacies. Please visit [http://www.kidneyfund.org/fpa\\_Medicare-D.asp](http://www.kidneyfund.org/fpa_Medicare-D.asp) to locate a pharmacy near you.

3. Can the AKF pharmacy benefit card be used for any bone care medication?

*Answer:* The AKF pharmacy benefit card may only be used for the Bone Care medications listed below.

- **Fosrenol<sup>®</sup>**
- **Hectorol<sup>®</sup>**
- **PhosLo<sup>®</sup>**
- **Renagel<sup>®</sup>**
- **Sensipar<sup>®</sup>**
- **Zemplar<sup>®</sup> Capsules**

4. My patient requires assistance with renal vitamins, is there assistance available for them?

*Answer:* Although renal vitamins are not covered under AKF's Bone Disease Program, they are available the AKF's Pharmacy Program. Please contact the Patient Services Department at 1-800-638-8299 for more information.

5. My patient was enrolled prior to 9/15/2007; will he/she receive an AKF pharmacy benefit card?

*Answer:* Patients who were enrolled in the program prior to 9/15/2007 will not receive AKF pharmacy benefit cards at this time. These patients will be permitted to continue to submit pharmacy receipts to AKF or receive refills through an AKF preferred mail order pharmacy through December 31, 2007. Should these patients be re-enrolled into the Part D Grant Program for 2008, AKF will issue pharmacy benefit cards to them at that time.

6. What is LIS?

*Answer:* The Low Income Subsidy (LIS) or “Extra Help” established by the Social Security Administration (SSA) provides additional assistance to Medicare Part D patients who meet financial eligibility requirements (income up to 150% FPL). Additional information about this benefit and an on-line application tool are available at [www.accesstobenefits.org](http://www.accesstobenefits.org).

7. My patient may be eligible for extra help through an LIS subsidy. Is he/she required to apply for LIS prior to applying to AKF’s program?

*Answer:* Yes, applicants who are financially eligible (income up to 150% FPL) for extra help through the LIS subsidy must apply before seeking assistance through AKF’s program. Additional information about this benefit and an on-line application tool are available at [www.accesstobenefits.org](http://www.accesstobenefits.org). If the patient has been denied LIS, a copy of the denial letter from Social Security must be included with their Part D Bone Disease Program application.

8. My patient is awaiting an LIS decision. May he/she apply for AKF’s Part D Bone Disease Program prior to receiving an LIS decision?

*Answer:* Yes, your patient may apply for the program. Patients awaiting an LIS subsidy decision but who otherwise meet AKF’s eligibility criteria will be designated as “pending enrollment” and will be eligible for partial grants up to \$175. Upon receiving a written LIS subsidy decision, these patients may then submit to AKF a “Full Enrollment” request form along with a copy of the LIS decision letter in order to receive an additional grant ranging from \$500 up to \$2000 per year.

9. My patient has money remaining from his/her 2007 grant. Will that amount carry over to 2008?

*Answer:* Grant approvals are valid for the calendar year in which they are approved. Any remaining amount will be zeroed out on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Patients may reapply for assistance to be considered for a grant for the following year. Re-enrollment forms will be mailed out to all participating patients prior to the end of the calendar year.

10. What if the patient does not have a Medicare Part D plan but still needs assistance with these medications?

*Answer:* Applicants must be receiving dialysis in the U.S. or one of its territories and currently enrolled in a Part D prescription plan in order to be enrolled in the AKF Part D Bone Disease Medications Program. Patients who are ineligible for, or not enrolled in a Part D plan may still seek assistance through AKF's Individual Grant and Pharmacy Programs, as appropriate.

11. Can I apply for the Medicare Part D Bone Disease Medications program and the Individual Grant or Pharmacy Grant programs?

*Answer:* Yes, in addition to applying for the Medicare Part D Bone Disease Medications you may also apply for the Individual Grant or Pharmacy Grant programs for medications not covered under the Bone Disease Program.

12. How often may a patient reapply?

*Answer:* Grant approvals are valid for the calendar year in which they are approved. Patients must reapply for assistance to be considered for a grant the following year.

13. Can I fax the completed application?

*Answer:* Yes, completed applications may be faxed to Patient Services at (301) 881-3311.