April 19, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Participating Pharmacies

FROM: Ronald Taniguchi, Pharm. D.
      Director, Pharmacy Management

SUBJECT: Voluntary recall of Grifulvin V (griseofulvin oral suspension)

HMSA would like to ensure you are aware the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has announced that Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical has issued a nationwide recall of glass bottles of Grifulvin V, griseofulvin oral suspension, microsize 125 mg/5 mL, a prescription used to treat ringworm and other fungal infections. The voluntary recall is precautionary, based on two reports of glass fragments found in bottles of the liquid formulation.

The medication being recalled, Grifulvin V and the generic, griseofulvin (which has a Patriot Pharmaceuticals, LLC label), is limited to the liquid form of the medication and does not include any other dosage form. The lots were shipped to U.S. distributors between August 23, 2005 and March 14, 2007. Lot numbers are posted on www.aboutgrifulvin.com.

Members with bottles that were filled at the pharmacy and do not contain lot numbers are being advised to contact the pharmacy where they filled the prescription to determine if they are in possession of a recalled product. Physicians who have prescribed the medication between January 1, 2007 and March 31, 2007 are also being notified.

The two reports of glass fragments are believed to be the result of bottle breakage during shipping and handling and were difficult to detect due to the protective plastic over-wrap on the bottles. The over-wrap will be modified to prevent a future occurrence.

If you have any questions about this notification, please call a Provider Teleservice Representative at 948-6330 on Oahu or 1 (800) 790-4672 from the Neighbor Islands for private business plans, or 948-6486 on Oahu or 1 (800) 440-0640 from the Neighbor Islands for The HMSA Plan for QUEST Members.