The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released a Federal Register notice on January 14, 2011, which asked manufacturers of prescription combination drug products containing acetaminophen to limit the amount of acetaminophen to no more than 325 mg in each tablet or capsule by January 14, 2014.

A subsequent January 14, 2014 FDA posting indicated more than half of the manufacturers had voluntarily complied with the request. However, some prescription combination drug products containing more than 325 mg of acetaminophen per dosage unit remain available. The FDA intends to institute proceedings to withdraw approval of these products that remain on the market. See http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DrugSafety/ucm381644.htm for additional information.

Based on the intended FDA action toward noncompliant products, prescription acetaminophen combination products containing more than 325 mg of acetaminophen per dosage unit will be removed from Iowa Medicaid coverage effective February 7, 2014.

Please notify prescribers in advance of this change to assist in transitioning Medicaid members to a preferred product. The Preferred Drug List is available at www.iowamedicaidpdl.com under the Preferred Drug Lists tab.

Please contact the POS Helpdesk at phone (515) 256-4608 (local) or (877) 463-7671 if there are questions regarding coverage of these products by Iowa Medicaid.