



Connecticut & U.S. Healthcare Cost Drivers Informational Session II (Solutions & Policies)

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Building Toward a More Accessible and Affordable Health Care Future

- Pharmacy benefit companies secure lower prescription drug costs, enable better health outcomes for patients, and offer employers and other health insurance plan sponsors the choices and guidance they need to expand access and provide quality prescription drug coverage for millions of Americans.
- Pharmacy benefit companies do not set the prices of prescription drugs.
- Pharmacy benefit companies exist to drive down the cost of prescription drugs.

Solutions in Three Key Areas:

1. Ensure System Sustainability by Promoting Competition
2. Support and Equip Clinicians with Tools and Data to Serve Patients Optimally
3. Enhance Patient Outcomes and Improve the Patient Experience

#1 - Ensure System Sustainability by Promoting Competition

- Promote Generic and Biosimilar Competition
 - As evidenced by the impact of generic drugs, the most effective way to reduce prescription drug costs is to increase competition in the marketplace. Similarly, when more biosimilars enter the market, increasing their uptake will help boost competition and lower costs for patients.
 - Solutions:
 - Protect PBM tools such as prior authorization and step therapy. Prior authorization is often required for drugs with a high risk of abuse or overuse, significant side effects, or off-label uses not approved by the FDA. Step therapy ensures that prescribers consider the medically appropriate available therapeutic alternatives before settling on a course of therapy for a specific patient.

#1 - Ensure System Sustainability by Promoting Competition (cont.)

- Promote Pharmacy Networks
 - Where a patient acquires a drug can impact costs significantly. Policies that restrict pharmacy benefit companies' ability to develop pharmacy networks drive costs up, while well-managed pharmacy networks offer savings to both plan sponsors and enrollees.
 - Solutions:
 - Seek to better understand the critical role of pharmacy services administrative organizations (PSAOs) in supporting pharmacies.
 - Protect employers' and health plan sponsors' ability to make choices that allow them to effectively serve plan participants.
 - Protect and promote the use of mail order.

#2 - Support and Equip Clinicians with Tools and Data to Serve Patients Optimally

- Support and Partner with Clinicians on Prescription Drug Affordability
 - Electronic pharmacy benefit tools like Real Time Benefit Tools (RTBT), electronic prior authorization (ePA), and electronic prescribing (eRx), reduce administrative burden and speed access, enabling clinicians to allocate more time to direct patient care.
 - Solutions:
 - Expand the use of RTBT.
 - Require the use of electronic prescribing and prior authorizations
 - Provide incentives for using RTBT

#2 - Support and Equip Clinicians with Tools and Data to Serve Patients Optimally (cont.)

- Encourage Use of Lower Cost Care Options
 - Decisions made about sites of care and drug products selected have cost implications.
 - Solutions:
 - Allow pharmacists to “practice at the top of their license.”
 - Provide biosimilars education for providers and resources they can share with patients.
 - Provide incentives for using RTBT

#3 - Enhance Patient Outcomes and Improve the Patient Experience

- Enable Flexibility
 - Pharmacy benefit companies serve people along the full spectrum of life circumstances and are best able to meet patients' needs when pharmacy benefit tools and offerings are fully available
 - Solutions:
 - Support the use of specialty pharmacies.
 - Promote home delivery.
 - Promote the use of RTBT

DC Solutions

- Stop Patent Abuse
 - To increase competition and lower patient and plan sponsor costs, it is imperative for policymakers to end the anticompetitive tactics used by big drug companies
- Ensure Drugs Can Compete Fairly
 - Big drug companies block competitors from coming to market through a variety of anticompetitive tactics used to undermine the market in their favor.

Summary

- Increase competition
- Encourage the use of technology
- Improve the patient experience without raising costs



Questions?

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