

Now Available: “Access, Affordability, and Outcomes: The Value of Managed Care Pharmacy”

On Oct. 11, AMCP unveiled its inaugural “Access, Affordability, and Outcomes: The Value of Managed Care Pharmacy” annual report. The 32-page report describes the work of managed care pharmacists around several key areas: pharmacy benefit design and implementation; formulary and medication utilization management; clinical programs; quality and safety program management; and promoting affordability. By synthesizing publicly available data on the most widely used managed care pharmacy tools, the report raises awareness of the importance of managed care pharmacists’ work, while also highlighting the challenges and opportunities faced by the industry. “Access, Affordability, and Outcomes: The Value of Managed Care Pharmacy” reflects AMCP’s commitment to improving patient health by ensuring access to high-quality, cost-effective medications and serves as a valuable educational tool for the nearly 300 million Americans served by managed care organizations.

[Read the full report.](#)



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AMCP Comments on Maximum Monthly Cap on Cost-Sharing Payments Under Prescription Drug Plan

Medicare's Maximum Monthly Cap on Cost-Sharing Payments Program, established by section 11202 of the Inflation Reduction Act and often referred to as out-of-pocket "smoothing," evenly spreads healthcare expenses over a plan year for eligible Medicare beneficiaries. On Sept. 20, AMCP submitted comments in response to CMS' draft guidance regarding the Maximum Monthly Cap on Cost-Sharing Payments Program. In the comment letter, AMCP commends CMS' efforts to reduce out-of-pocket costs for patients. AMCP also shares concerns regarding the timely implementation of the program, given the complexity of the requirements and the tight turnaround time before the program comes into effect.

[Read AMCP's comments.](#)

AMCP Makes Headlines on PDTs, Nexus 2023

As Congress works to nominate a new Speaker of the House, AMCP's Government Affairs team continues to advocate for the association's top legislative priorities in 2023. On Sept. 22, Jennifer Mathieu, AMCP's Senior Vice President of Professional and Government Affairs, sat down with [MobiHealthNews](#) to discuss the status of the Access to Prescription Digital Therapeutics Act ([S.723/H.R. 1458](#)). "We're now to the point where we're doing less education on what a prescription digital therapeutic is and more on how many there are," Mathieu states, adding that AMCP's lobbying efforts have shifted to counteract the misconception that the bill may cover hundreds of products with an incredibly expensive cost. When asked about the next steps, Mathieu described AMCP's efforts to secure an accurate Congressional Budget Office "score," or price tag, for the bill before the end of the year. On Oct. 12, Mathieu also spoke with the [American Journal of Managed Care](#) on the legislative- and regulatory-focused sessions at



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AMCP's Nexus 2023 meeting. Attendees at Nexus 2023 enjoyed a pre-conference session on the Inflation Reduction Act, updates on AMCP's federal and state advocacy work, educational sessions on a prescription digital therapeutics case study and PBM transparency legislation, and a massive slate of networking opportunities.

[Help AMCP](#) by calling on your Members of Congress to support our policy priorities.

BBCIC Awarded \$1.4 Million Grant From the FDA

On Oct. 10, the Biologics & Biosimilars Collective Intelligence Consortium (BBCIC) announced that it had been awarded a \$1.4 million grant from the FDA to support biosimilars research. The grant specifically supports a new BBCIC study which will identify opportunities and challenges in using foreign data to accelerate the domestic biosimilars approval process. “The current approval process for biosimilar products is complex, delaying patients’ access to cost-effective therapies,” said Cate Lockhart, Executive Director of the BBCIC, in a press release announcing the grant. “Using real-world data from foreign countries will help improve the FDA’s work and ultimately help patients receive access to approved therapies in a timelier manner.” Science & Enterprise also highlighted the grant award in an Oct. 10 article titled [FDA Funds Study of Real World Data for Biosimilars](#). AMCP established the BBCIC in 2015 to address anticipated needs for evidence generation for novel biologics, their corresponding biosimilars, and other related products.

[View AMCP's press release.](#)

AMCP Comments on Medicaid Program; Misclassification of Drugs, Program Administration, and Program Integrity Updates Under the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program

On May 26, CMS released a proposed rule to implement policies in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program (MDRP) related to the new legislative requirements in the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019, which address drug misclassification, as well as drug pricing and product data misreporting by manufacturers. On July 25, AMCP responded with comments in support of the agency's efforts to promote transparency within the health care system. AMCP's comments also urge CMS to increase transparency without disincentivizing the ability of plans, PBMs, and manufacturers to collaborate and innovate best practices concerning the Medicaid pharmacy benefit.

[Read AMCP's comment letter.](#)