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5 Must Haves in Your PBM Contract

February 25, 2020

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Midwest Health **Purchasers** Collaborative

Health Strategy

We have been the leading pharmacy benefit consultant for the past decade

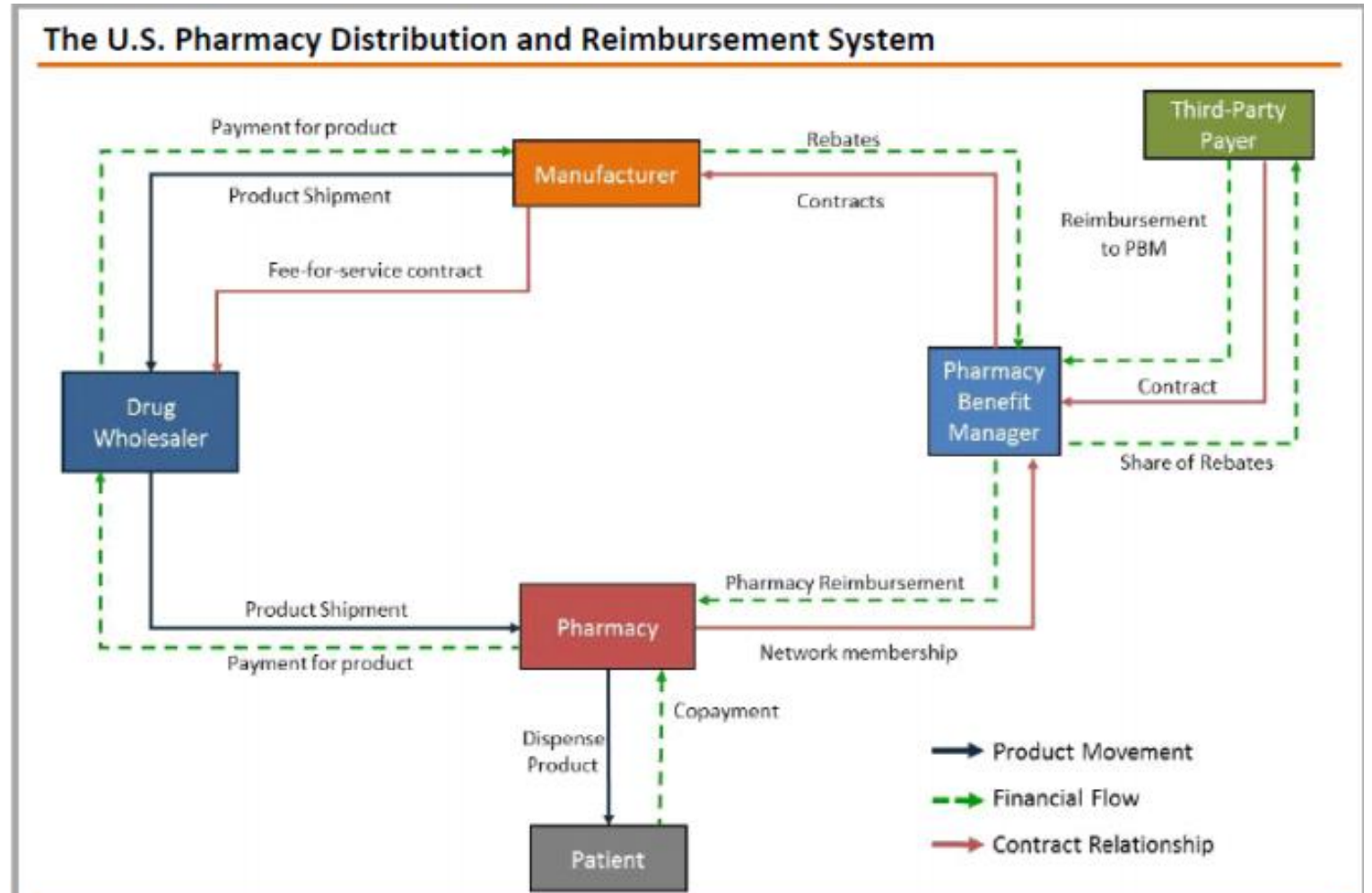


- We are the largest, conflict-of-interest free, Pharmacy Benefit Consulting firm in the industry
- We do not receive or accept compensation, fees or any revenue from PBMs
- We do not profit from, or operate, any reseller or coalition contracts

Pharmacy Benefit Supply Chain

PBMs have influence, and control, over all facets of the supply chain; they

- Dictate which drugs an employer can cover, often receiving rebate payments from drug manufacturers
- Negotiate the price that pharmacies receive when a prescription is filled
- Negotiate the price that an employer / employee pays when a prescription is filled
- Negotiate with each party separately and offer limited transparency into their profit



Five PBM Contract Must Haves

- Objective Definitions
- Broad Definition of “Rebates”
- Rebate Pass-Through
- Control over Formulary and Drug Coverage Decisions
- Market Check and Early Termination Rights

Objective Definitions

Term	Example	Issues
Generic Drug	The term “generic drug” shall mean a multisource drug set forth in First DataBank’s National Drug Data File, or some other nationally recognized source, as reasonably determined by the PBM, that is available in sufficient supply from multiple FDA-approved generic manufacturers of such drugs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PBM gets to determine what is a generic drug • No specific indicators or objective criteria are used

Term	Best Practice
Generic Drug	A Covered Prescription, whether identified by its chemical, proprietary, or non-proprietary name that (a) is accepted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as therapeutically equivalent and interchangeable with drugs having an identical amount of the same active ingredient and/or (b) has a Multi-Source Code field in Medi-Span of “Y” or a Brand Name Code field of “G”. Generic Drugs shall also include Brand Drugs that adjudicate at MAC, Covered Prescriptions with a DAW code of 3, 4, 5, or 6, Single Source Generic Drugs, Biosimilar Drugs, Authorized Generic Drugs and any other Covered Drug that PBM adjudicates as a Generic Drug as a standard across its entire book of business. The parties agree that when a drug is identified as a Generic Drug, it shall be considered a Generic Drug for all purposes under this Agreement.

Defining Rebates

Term	Example	Issue
Rebates	Rebates – all rebates received by PBM on behalf of Client, less administrative fees, will be passed on to the Client during the life of this Agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No definition of what a Rebate is

Term	Best Practice
Rebates	All payments, discounts, reimbursements and remuneration collected or received by PBM and/or its Affiliates from any manufacturer arising from or as a result of: (i) such manufacturer's product's formulary status or otherwise involving or relating to formularies, utilization management, prior authorizations, benefit designs, and/or Cost Share strategies of Client; (ii) market share for certain Covered Prescriptions within certain therapeutic categories whether measured at the Client level and/or any other part of the book of business in aggregate or otherwise of PBM; (iii) outcome- or value-based agreements; or (iv) AWP, wholesale acquisition cost, and/or similar price guarantees, including caps and/or restrictions on drug price inflation or increases attributable to Covered Prescription utilization by Covered Members.

Rebate Pass-Through

1. Ensure Rebates and Manufacturer Revenue are broadly defined
2. Contract should specify minimum Rebate Guarantees on a per script basis by channel
 1. Retail 30 Brand
 2. Retail 90 Brand
 3. Mail Brand
 4. Specialty
3. Contract should clearly state an drugs which may be excluded from the rebate guarantees
4. Plan Sponsor should receive all Rebates and Manufacturer revenue received by the PBM – not just the minimum guaranteed amount
5. Be wary of any Rebate credits being applied to a medical admin fee

Drug Coverage Decisions

1. PBM contract needs to allow Plan Sponsor to exclude high cost drugs where a lower cost therapeutic equivalent drugs exists
2. PBMs may include high cost drugs on a formulary due to rebates they receive from drug manufacturers.
3. PBMs may even tell you why you need to include high rebate drugs on your formulary and make it appear as if you lose money by excluding these drugs
4. With so many high costs drugs coming to market, Plan Sponsors also need the ability to block
 1. New to Market Drugs without clinical evidence on outcomes
 2. High cost drugs which are simply a new dosage or release mechanism for drugs that already exist in the market
 3. High cost combination drugs where the individual drugs are much less costly

Formulary Decision Examples

Rationale	Comments
Combo - OTC individual agents as alternatives	Both products in the combo are available OTC - therefore not necessary to cover under the RX plan. There is no improved clinical benefit of taking the combo (examples: Duexis,Vimovo)
Combo - Rx + OTC - use individual products	This combination is created with a Rx drug and they add an OTC agent, put a high price tag on it and call it a new brand drug. There is no improved clinical benefit of taking the combo.
Equivalent Alternatives - same chemical entity	Same drug, but just a different salt added in manufacturing. Doxycycline monohydrate versus doxycycline hyclate. No impact on clinical effectiveness and produces same outcome
High cost release mechanism	The manufacturer creates a unique extended release mechanism, but the extended release mechanism does not provide any added clinical benefit. Example - metformin ER for Diabetes costs about \$20 for a 30 days supply. Manufacturer came out with an osmotic release that costs over \$2000 for a 30 day supply.
Compound Kit	Manufacturer increases cost by adding a vitamin, sunscreen or a face wash to the packaging to make it a kit. Sometimes it is two creams added to a kit packaging and the member combines them.
Cream combo with OTC alternatives	Combination cream or patch where the manufacturer adds an OTC ingredient and puts a high price tag on the product. For Example, they may add menthol (Vicks vapor rub) or capsacian to a cream or patch. There is no clinical outcome improvement seen when adding these random ingredients.

Market Check and Early Termination

1. Plan Sponsors do not want to go through the disruption of changing PBMs often
2. As a result, PBM contracts often three year terms
3. Discount guarantees and rebate guarantees should increase every year in the contract
4. The contract should allow for an annual “Market Check” where financial guarantees can be improved in future contract years
5. Even with a three year contract term, a Plan Sponsor should have a termination for convenience right so they are not locked in to a contract that becomes uncompetitive

Our Process

PBM Contract Optimization

- Contract Terms & Definitions Set by Health Strategy to protect Plan Sponsor
- Any PBM can be included in RFP or renegotiation process; including incumbent
- Flexibility and carve-out rights which can be implemented at each employer's own pace

Custom Formulary

- Independent Drug Coverage Decisions
- Right to exclude high cost, low value drugs
- Right to review & block new to market drugs

Retail Network Strategy

- Direct Contracting
- Contracts based on the cost of the drugs rather than AWP
- Plan design to lowest cost options

Specialty Drug Carve-Out

- Customize Utilization Management & Prior Authorization
- Non-rebate driven approvals
- Carve-out procurement for lowest net cost

Health Strategy provides independent claims monitoring, performance reporting and reconciliations to PBM contract terms

Questions?

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