

Inflation Reduction Act limits cost sharing for Part B drugs and insulin

Two provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act enacted in August 2022 will limit cost sharing for your Medicare Advantage patients who receive Part B drugs and insulin.

Part B “rebatable” drugs

Effective April 1, 2023, Medicare will identify Part B “rebatable” drugs that have a price increasing at a rate higher than the rate of inflation. Patient cost sharing for these Part B rebatable drugs is limited to the cost under Original Medicare and will typically be less than the standard 20% coinsurance. Medicare will notify Security Health Plan of the allowed cost for these drugs on a quarterly basis.

The coinsurance limit applies to Medicare Part B-covered drugs that are injected or infused while providing physician, hospital outpatient or ambulatory surgical center services; including diagnostic tests. Examples include drugs given in conjunction with an MRI, MRA or CT scan, stress test and ultrasound.

Part B insulin

Effective July 1, 2023, Medicare will cap the copayment at \$35 for a one-month supply of Part B insulin furnished through an item of durable medical equipment such as an insulin pump. Security Health Plan will configure its claims system so that the cost of Part B insulin cannot exceed \$35 and the Medicare Part B deductible does not apply to insulin and related DME.