

Pharmacy Assistance Programs/Access to Medicines

Access to Medicines as Potential Medicine Therapy Problems

Potential Problem	Guidance for Resolution
Will patient be paying cash for the discharge medications?	Compare prices and inform patient of prices and possible discounts for local pharmacies using a prescription comparison website like: http://www.goodrx.com/
Does the patient have an insurance card for prescription drug coverage?	If not, the information may be on file at their pharmacy.
Identify the patient's primary pharmacy.	If patient uses multiple pharmacies, document the pharmacies and counsel patient on utilizing only one pharmacy to optimize drug therapy management.
Are these medications brand name only?	Can these prescriptions be substituted for generics per the Generic Substitution Law?
Are the medications covered?	Determine coverage and co-pay before discharge to inform patient of the expected out-of-pocket costs. Refer to the websites below under Preferred Drug List: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District of Columbia Medicaid Fee For Service or Medicaid Managed Care • Medicare and Medicare: http://www.fingertipformulary.com/
Can the co-pays be determined?	
Is the patient able to afford their co-pays?	Patient should be informed if these medications will be a short-term treatment (i.e. antibiotic) or long-term medication that they will have to purchase monthly.
Are these medications listed on the insurer's "Preferred Drug List" (PDL) or is a prior authorization (PA) required?	Please visit the following insurance websites to determine medication restrictions such as PA: DC Medicaid http://www.amerhealthcaritasdc.com/pdf/member/alliance/drug-formulary.pdf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District of Columbia Medicaid: : https://dc.fhsc.com/providers/PDL.asp • Non-Medicare and Medicare: http://www.fingertipformulary.com/

Pharmacy Assistance Program Resources

Partnership for Prescription Assistance	https://www.pparx.org/prescription_assistance_programs/list_of_participating_programs https://www.pparx.org/gethelp
Rx Assist, Patient Assistance Program Center	http://www.rxassist.org/