

MEDICARE 2025 Changes



AGENDA

- Part D
- The Inflation Reduction Act
- 2025 Changes
- Next Steps and Resources



PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE





- Medicare Part D program began in 2006.
- Only offered by private companies and approved by Medicare.
- · Coverage options can vary by insurer and plan type.
- Part D is "voluntary".
- 1% penalty (based on the base beneficiary premium) for every month without drug coverage if you choose to enroll in the future.

How coverage works



Outpatient prescription drugs covered in the plan's formulary

Outpatient prescription drugs covered through a formulary exception or appeal

Outpatient prescription drugs filled in accordance with plan pharmacy network requirements

What's not covered



Drugs not on the formulary

Drugs excluded from coverage by Medicare

"Over the Counter" medications

Medications purchased outside the US



PART D COVERAGE OPTIONS





Stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan (PDP)*



Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan (MAPD)**



Certain Medicare Advantage Only Plans + PDP

*You must be enrolled in Part A and/or Part B

**You must be enrolled in Part A and B.

You cannot be enrolled in a Stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan and a Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan at the same time.



INFLATION REDUCTION ACT (IRA)



OVERVIEW

A prescription drug law, signed into law on August 16, 2022. The law is comprised of different initiatives, launching on a specified timeline.

Limit Out of Pocket Costs

Limit Insulin to \$35 per month - 2023

\$2000 TrOOP - 2025

Eliminate Gap - 2025

Limits Base Beneficiary Premium increase to 6% YOY - 2024

Lower Prescription Costs

Certain Vaccines = No Cost - 2023

Negotiate Certain Drugs at Lower Cost - 2026

Expand Financial Assistance

Raise Full Extra Help Income Limit to 150% of FPL - 2024

https://www.cms.gov/inflation-reduction-act-and-medicare/part-d-improvements
Fact Sheet: Final CY 2025 Part D Redesign Program Instructions (PDF)
Final CY 2025 Part D Redesign Program Instructions (PDF)







BENEFIT DESIGN CHANGES

Sunsets 1/1/2025

Current Benefit Design

Initial Coverage Limit

Coverage Gap

Coverage Gap Discount Program

Begins 1/1/2025

New Defined Standard Benefit

\$2000 Out-Of-Pocket Threshold

Manufacturers Discount Program (MDP)

MDP Applicable vs Non-Applicable Drugs

Medicare Prescription Drug Payment Plan (Also known as drug "Smoothing")





CURRENT CMS STANDARD (DS) BENEFIT DESIGN

You pay 100% of your Gross Covered Prescription Drug Costs (GCPDC) until your plan deductible is met.

\$545

You pay 25% coinsurance for covered Part D drugs until your costs reach the MOOP.

Your Plan pays 75%

\$5030 MOOP

Known as "Donut Hole"

You pay 25% on generic and name brand medications until you have reached the True Out Of Pocket (TrOOP) limit.

Your Plan pays 5%-75%

Manufacturers pay 70% on applicable drugs

\$8000 TrOOP

You pay no cost for covered Part D drugs.

Your plan pays 20%

The Government pays 80%

No Cost

Your "at most" cost share limit in each coverage phase





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CMS 2025 DEFINED STANDARD (DS) BENEFIT DESIGN

You pay 100% of your Gross Covered Prescription Drug Costs (GCPDC) until your plan deductible is met.

\$590

You pay
25% coinsurance
for covered Part D
drugs.

Your Plan pays 65 - 75%

Manufacturers pay 10% on applicable drugs

\$2000 TrOOP

You pays no cost for covered Part D drugs.

Your plan pays 60%

Manufacturers pay 20% for applicable drugs

The Government pays 20-40%

No Cost

Your "at most" cost share limit in each coverage phase





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CREDITABLE COVERAGE CHANGES

"Creditable prescription drug coverage" is prescription drug coverage that equals or exceeds the actuarial 123 value of defined standard Part D prescription drug coverage; that is, creditable coverage is coverage that is at least as good as Medicare's prescription drug coverage.

The defined standard is changing in 2025

Your employer/Part D Sponsor must notify you and CMS whether your coverage is creditable:

- (1) Prior to your initial enrollment period for Part D
- (2) Prior to the effective date of enrollment in the prescription drug coverage and upon any change that affects whether the coverage is creditable prescription drug coverage
- (3) Prior to Annual Election Period and
- (4) Upon request by the individual

If you are still employed and on group coverage:

Ask your employer or Part D Sponsor if your coverage will remain creditable in 2025

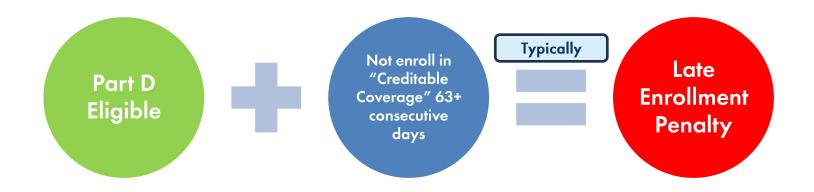




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CREDITABLE COVERAGE CHANGES

If a Part D eligible beneficiary is covered under a group health plan, including the Federal employee's health benefits program and qualified retiree prescription drug plans as defined in section 1860D-22(a)(2) of the Act, coverage must be deemed creditable to avoid a Late Enrollment Penalty.



¹CMS is required to pay a subsidy to sponsors of qualified retiree prescription drug plans that provide equivalent or better coverage than the actuarial value of standard prescription drug coverage, if they apply for an qualify







CMS 2025 ENHANCED ALTERNATIVE (EA) BENEFIT DESIGN

EA = Supplemental Drug Plan Benefits that exceed the defined standard Most prescription coverage on Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans are enhanced alternative benefit design.



Coverage of drugs that are specifically excluded from Part D drug coverage



Reduction of cost sharing in the Initial Coverage Phase



Reduction or elimination of the defined standard deductible



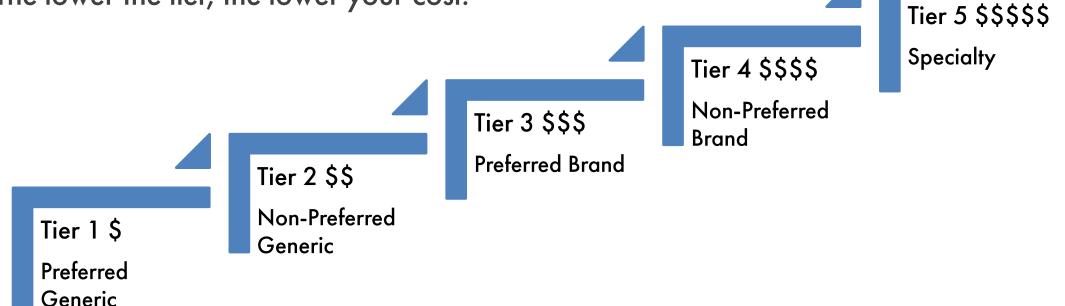


PART D DRUG TIERS



• The majority of Part D plans have a formulary (approved list of drugs) and are classified into tiers based on brand vs generic, cost and risk.

• The lower the tier, the lower your cost.



*Select plans may include a 6th tier



PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE



TrOOP (True Out-Of-Pocket Costs):

True out-of-pocket (TrOOP) costs are incurred costs that count toward your Medicare drug plan out-of-pocket threshold of \$2000 in 2025.

Incurred costs determine when you:

- Become an applicable beneficiary and qualify for the Manufacturer Discount Program
- Reach the annual OOP threshold
- Enter the catastrophic coverage phase

To be included as an Incurred Cost drugs must:

- Be covered in formulary, or covered through a coverage determination, formulary exception or appeal
- Be purchased at an in-network pharmacy
- Be purchased at an out-of-network pharmacy in accordance with the plan's out-of-network policy



TrOOP - TRUE OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS CHANGES

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Current Incurred Cost Include:

- Annual Deductible
- Initial Coverage Phase Cost Shares
- Costs borne or paid:
 - By Extra Help (Also Known as Low Income Subsidy)
 - Under a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program
 - By family or friends on your behalf
 - By the Indian Health Service, an Indian tribe or tribal organization, or an urban Indian organization (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act)
 - Under an AIDS Drug Assistance Program under part B of title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act.
 - Most charities (unless they're established, run, or controlled by your current or former employer or union or by a drug manufacturer's Patient Assistance Program operating outside Part D)





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TrOOP – TRUE OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS CHANGES

New Incurred Cost for CY 2025:

- Supplemental Part D coverage provided by enhanced alternative (EA) Part D plans
- Supplemental coverage provided by Employer Group Waiver Plans
- Cost reductions in cost sharing for enrolled beneficiaries, such as:
 - reductions by Medicare-Medicaid Plans and D-SNPs
 - Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation model benefits that reimburse costs for covered Part D drugs (unless stated otherwise in a Request for Applications)







TrOOP – TRUE OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS CHANGES

How this impacts your costs

The greater cost of the Enhanced Alternative cost share or the Defined Standard cost share is what will count towards your True Out of Pocket Costs (TrOOP).

Example of How this Could work with your Plan

Enhance Alternative Benefit Plan	Cost
Actual Drug Cost	\$400
Defined Standard Cost Share (25%)	\$100
Your plan copay	\$40
What counts toward TrOOP	\$100

This could mean you spend less than the \$2000 Out-Of-Pocket Threshold and reach Catastrophic Coverage.

Which means no additional cost for Part D Covered Drugs for the rest of the plan year!



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TrOOP – TRUE OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS CHANGES

Not Counted toward TrOOP

- Monthly Plan Premiums
- Share Paid by the Plan (Except Enhanced Alternative coverage)
- Non-formulary drugs
- Drugs purchased outside of the US and its territories
- Excluded drugs (Even if the plan covers them in a EA supplemental benefit)
- Any manufacturer payments made under the Discount Program
- Over-the-counter or most vitamins (even if they're required by the plan as part of step therapy)







MANUFACTURER DISCOUNT PROGRAM (MDP / DISCOUNT PROGRAM)

Medicare Part D Manufacturer Discount Program:

Successor to the Coverage Gap Discount Program. Under the Discount Program, participating manufacturers are required to provide discounts on their applicable drugs both in the initial and catastrophic coverage phases of the Part D benefit. There is no manufacturer discount provided during the deductible phase.

During the initial coverage phase, the manufacturer discounts are a reduction in your out-of-pocket expenses. This is why they do not count as "incurred costs" toward TrOOP. This can be through **Point-of-Sale discounts** or

Direct Member Reimbursements









MANUFACTURER DISCOUNT PROGRAM (MDP / DISCOUNT PROGRAM)

Applicable Drugs

Brand Name Drugs Only!

- Covered, by the Plan, as a Part D Drug, but is not an excluded drug
- In The Plan's Approved List of Drugs (Formulary) or
- Covered through a Formulary Exception or Appeal
- FDA Approved or Licensed Biologic







MANUFACTURER DISCOUNT PROGRAM (MDP / DISCOUNT PROGRAM)

Non-Applicable Drugs

Drugs For:

- Anorexia, weight loss, or weight gain
- Promoting fertility (Infertility treatments)
- Cosmetic purposes or hair growth
- Symptomatic relief of cough and colds.
- Smoking cessation
- Prescription vitamins and mineral products, except prenatal vitamins and fluoride preparations.
- Nonprescription drugs¹
- When the manufacturer requires associated tests or monitoring services be purchased exclusively from the manufacturer/designee as a condition of drug sale.
- Barbiturates.
- Benzodiazepines
- Sexual/Erectile dysfunction²

¹except, in the case of pregnant women when recommended in accordance with the Guideline referred to in section 1905(bb)(2)(A), agents approved by the Food and Drug Administration under the over-the-counter monograph process for purposes of promoting, and when used to promote, tobacco cessation.

²unless such agents are used to treat a condition, other than sexual or erectile dysfunction, for which the agents have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

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GUIDED SOLUTIONS



MANUFACTURER DISCOUNT PROGRAM (MDP / DISCOUNT PROGRAM)

Non-Applicable Drugs

Part D Compounds.

Compound Drugs are ALWAYS considered non-applicable, even if one or more drug components in the compound are considered applicable.

Part D Compound

Non-Applicable
Drug





2025 PART D CHANGES MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PAYMENT PLAN



Beginning in 2025, the prescription drug law requires all Medicare prescription drug plans (Medicare Part D plans) — including both standalone Medicare prescription drug plans and Medicare Advantage plans with prescription drug coverage — to offer Part D enrollees the option to pay out-of-pocket prescription drug costs in the form of capped monthly payments instead of all at once at the pharmacy.

Who is eligible? – Anyone with Part D







MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PAYMENT PLAN

All Pharmacy Types are Included



Mail Order

Specialty

Home Infusion

Long-Term Care





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MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PAYMENT PLAN

When does the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan begin?

January 1, 2025

When can Part D enrollees start opting-in?

October 15, 2024

What other times can Part D enrollees opt into the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan?

Prior to the beginning of a plan year or in any month during a plan year

Opt-In Request Carrier Processing

Received Prior to Plan Year = 10 days to process

Received During Plan Year = 24 HOURS





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MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PAYMENT PLAN

You must choose to "Opt-In" if you wish to participate
You will NOT be auto-enrolled into the Medicare prescription payment plan

You must Opt-In to participate

How to "Opt-In"

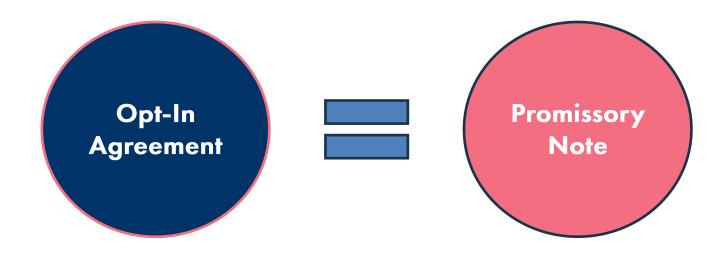




2025 PART D CHANGES MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PAYMENT PLAN



Agreement with your Part D Sponsor to finance your prescriptions at no cost* and bill you in a monthly statement.



^{*}No interest or fees can be added to your prescription costs.





MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PAYMENT PLAN



How much will the Part D Enrollee Pay?



At the Point of Sale (POS) / The Pharmacy

Once opted-in, you will no longer have the option to pay at the POS.

Instead, you will receive a monthly bill (separate from any PDP/MAPD premium) from your carrier for up to their monthly maximum cap.

Monthly Max Cap likely to vary by enrollee and by month





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MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PAYMENT PLAN

The
Program
Does
NOT

Save you money.
Change how you move through the coverage phases.
Change what counts toward TrOOP.

You can never be billed more than the monthly max cap. You have the option to pay more or pay the balance in full.

An Extended Supply Prescription's (90-100 day fills) entire out-of-pocket cost share counts toward the month you fills it. For example, if you have \$300 in OOP costs incurred for a 90-day supply dispensed in January, the full \$300 will be counted as incurred in January.





Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

Formulas for Maximum Cap Payments

First Month Maximum Cap Bill =

Annual OOP Threshold (\$2000 in 2025)



Any prescription costs the enrollee has already paid out of their pocket that count toward TrOOP

The number of month remaining in the year



Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

Formula for Maximum Cap Payments

Subsequent Month Maximum Cap Bill =

Current M3P OOP Remaining Balance
Due



New OOP Incurred Cost in the Month

The number of month remaining in the year



Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

Who will this program benefit?



Mr. Anderson* takes mostly generic prescriptions that he fills each month.

He is enrolled in a \$0 HMO MAPD plan in his area.

His plan has \$0 Deductible and a Tiered Cost Share Benefit.

Prescription Name	Dosage	Quantity	Туре	Tier	Retail Cost I	Plan Copay*	OOP Responsibility
Levothyroxine	112mcg	30/30	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$8.60	\$0	\$0
Nortriptyline HCL	10mg	60/30	capsule	Tier 4 - Non-Preferred Brand	\$11.07	\$60	\$7.26
Omeprazole DR	40mg	30/30	capsule	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$3.96	\$0	\$0
Methocarbamol	500mg	30/30	tablet	Tier 2 - Generic	\$1.85	\$0	\$0
Escitalopram	5mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$25.80	\$0	\$0
Bupropion HCL XL	150mg	30/30	tablet	Tier 3 - Preferred Brand	\$12.65	\$30	\$3.76

^{*}Copays are an "at most" cost share



^{*}Real Example Prescription Costs. Names are pseudonyms.

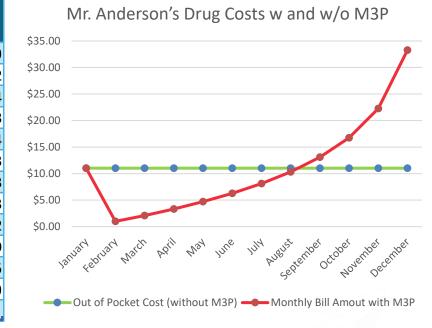
Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

Who will this program benefit?



Mr. Anderson pays the same cost share each month. He is not likely to benefit from the M3P.

Month	Out of Pocket Cost (without M3P)	Maximum Monthly Cap	Monthly Bill Amout	Balance in M3P
January	\$11.02	\$166.67	\$11.02	\$0.00
February	\$11.02	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$10.02
March	\$11.02	\$2.10	\$2.10	\$18.94
April	\$11.02	\$3.33	\$3.33	\$26.63
May	\$11.02	\$4.71	\$4.71	\$32.94
June	\$11.02	\$6.28	\$6.28	\$37.68
July	\$11.02	\$8.12	\$8.12	\$40.58
August	\$11.02	\$10.32	\$10.32	\$41.28
September	\$11.02	\$13.08	\$13.08	\$39.22
October	\$11.02	\$16.75	\$16.75	\$33.49
November	\$11.02	\$22.26	\$22.26	\$22.25
December	\$11.02	\$33.27	\$33.27	\$0.00
Total OOP Cost	\$132.24		\$132.24	



Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

Who will this program benefit?



Ms. Jones* takes high-cost drugs and fills them in a 90-day supply, early in the year. She is enrolled in a Stand-alone PDP plan in her area.

Her plan has \$35.90 monthly premium, a \$590 Deductible and a Tiered Cost Share Benefit.

Prescription Name	Dosage	Quantity	Туре	Tier	Retail Cost	Plan Cost Share*	OOP Responsibility
Ozempic	1	3 boxes	injection	Tier 3 - Preferred Brand	\$2,859.06	20%	\$571.81 (\$1043.81 1st Fill)
Metformin	1000	180/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$5.40	\$6	\$5.40
Jardiance	25mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 3 - Preferred Brand	\$1,803.97	20%	\$360.79
Fluoxetine	20mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 2 - Generic Drugs	\$6.05	\$11	\$6
Lisinopril	10mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$12.33	\$6	\$6
Atorvastatin	40 mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$12.28	\$6	\$6
Bupropion Hcl Xl	150 mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 2 - Generic Drugs	\$3.02	\$11	\$3.02
Estradiol	0.0001	90days	patch	Tier 4 - Non-Preferred Brand	\$78.24	40%	\$31.30

^{*}Plan cost shares are "at most". Based on a 30-day supply, after \$590 deductible.

^{*}Real Example Prescription Costs. All names are pseudonyms.

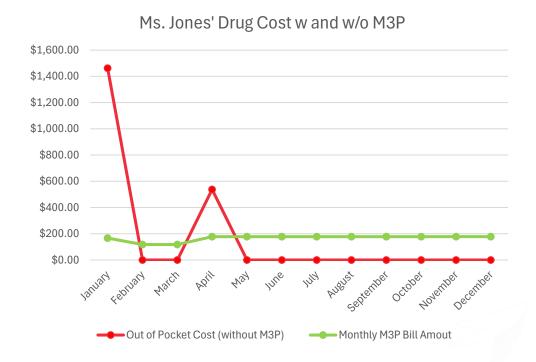
Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

Who will this program benefit?



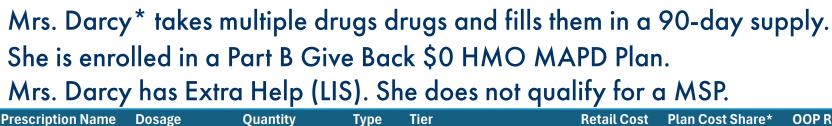
Ms. Jones pays high costs at the beginning of the year. She is likely to benefit from the M3P.

		Maximum	Monthly	
	Out of Pocket Cost	Monthly	M3P Bill	Balance
Month	(without M3P)	Сар	Amout	in M3P
January	\$1,462.37	\$166.67	\$166.67	\$1,295.70
February	\$0.00	\$117.79	\$117.79	\$1,177.91
March	\$0.00	\$117.79	\$117.79	\$1,060.12
April	\$537.63	\$177.53	\$177.53	\$1,420.22
May	\$0.00	\$177.53	\$177.53	\$1,242.69
June	\$0.00	\$177.53	\$177.53	\$1,065.16
July	\$0.00	\$177.53	\$177.53	\$887.63
August	\$0.00	\$177.53	\$177.53	\$710.10
Septembe	\$0.00	\$177.53	\$177.53	\$532.57
October	\$0.00	\$177.53	\$177.53	\$355.04
November	\$0.00	\$177.52	\$177.52	\$177.52
December	\$0.00	\$177.52	\$177.52	\$0.00
Total OOP	\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00	



Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

Who will this program benefit?



Prescription Name	Dosage	Quantity	Туре	Tier	Retail Cost	Plan Cost Share*	OOP Responsibility**
Amlodipine	2.5mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$0.89	\$0.00	\$0.00
Atorvastatin	20mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$5.79	\$0.00	\$0.00
Atorvastatin	40mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$7.95	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cevimeline	30mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 4 - Non-Preferred Brand	\$147.90	\$210.00	\$4.50
Clopidogrel	75mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$12.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ezetimibe	10mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$10.83	\$0.00	\$0.00
Irbesartan	300mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$36.30	\$0.00	\$0.00
Levothyroxine	100mcg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$9.75	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pantoprazole	40mg	90/90	tablet	Tier 1 - Preferred Generic	\$4.35	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pregabalin	100mg	90/90	capsule	Tier 3 - Preferred Brand	\$19.30	\$90.00	\$4.50
Ventolin HFA	90mcg/actuation	9 inhalers/90	inhaler	Tier 3 - Preferred Brand	\$214.70	\$90.00	\$11.20

^{*}Plan cost shares are "at most". Based on a 90-day supply, after \$590 deductible.



^{**}Based on LIS Rider Cost Shares.

^{*}Real Example Prescription Costs. All names are pseudonyms.

Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

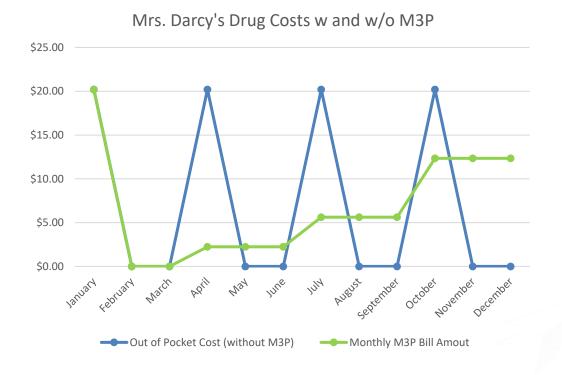
Who will this program benefit?



If Mrs. Darcy fills her prescriptions in a 90-day supply, She may benefit from the M3P.

It will depend on her desire and ability to pay an additional bill each month and spread her cost through the year.

	Out of Pocket	Maximum	Monthly	
	Cost (without	Monthly	Bill	Balance
Month	M3P)	Сар	Amout	in M3P
January	\$20.20	\$166.67	20.20	\$0.00
February	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
March	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
April	\$20.20	\$2.24	2.24	\$17.96
May	\$0.00	\$2.24	2.24	\$15.71
June	\$0.00	\$2.24	2.24	\$13.47
July	\$20.20	\$5.61	5.61	\$28.06
August	\$0.00	\$5.61	5.61	\$22.44
Septembe	\$0.00	\$5.61	5.61	\$16.83
October	\$20.20	\$12.34	12.34	\$24.69
November	\$0.00	\$12.34	12.34	\$12.34
December	\$0.00	\$12.34	12.34	\$0.00
Total OOP	\$80.80		80.80	



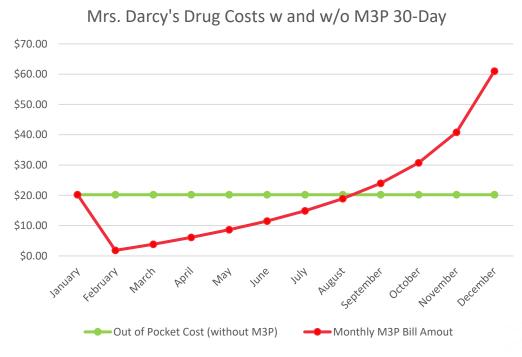
Medicare Prescription Payment Plan

Who will this program benefit?



If Mrs. Darcy fills her prescriptions in a 30-day supply, She is not likely benefit from the M3P.

	Out of Pocket	Maximum	Monthly	
	Cost (without	Monthly	Bill	Balance
Month	M3P)	Сар	Amout	in M3P
January	\$20.20	\$166.67	20.20	\$0.00
February	\$20.20	\$1.84	1.84	\$18.36
March	\$20.20	\$3.86	3.86	\$34.71
April	\$20.20	\$6.10	6.10	\$48.81
May	\$20.20	\$8.63	8.63	\$60.38
June	\$20.20	\$11.51	11.51	\$69.07
July	\$20.20	\$14.88	14.88	\$74.39
August	\$20.20	\$18.92	18.92	\$75.67
Septembe	\$20.20	\$23.97	23.97	\$71.90
October	\$20.20	\$30.70	30.70	\$61.40
November	\$20.20	\$40.80	40.80	\$40.80
December	\$20.20	\$61.00	61.00	\$0.00
Total OOP	\$242.40		242.40	



MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PAYMENT PLAN

Sample Medicare Maximum Cap Payments – Mid-Year Opt-In

Not in M3P. Paid at POS

\$600 Rx Trigger of a "Likely to Benefit Notice" And M3P Opt-In

Payments escalate to their highest in November and December

Month	OOP Costs	Maximum Monthly Cap	Monthly Participant
	Incurred (W/O M3P)	_	Payment
January	\$4.00	N/A	\$4.00*
February	\$4.00	N/A	\$4.00*
March	\$4.00	N/A	\$4.00*
April	\$617.00	\$220.89	\$220.89
May	\$4.00	\$50.01	\$50.01
June	\$4.00	\$50.59	\$50.59
July	\$124.00	\$71.25	\$71.25
August	\$4.00	\$72.05	\$72.05
September	\$4.00	\$73.05	\$73.05
October	\$124.00	\$114.39	\$114.39
November	\$4.00	\$116.39	\$116.39
December	\$4.00	\$120.38	\$120.38
TOTAL	\$901.00	1 1 01	\$901.00

^{*}These payments were made directly to the pharmacy, outside of the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan.

First Monthly Cap \$2000 (2025 TrOOP) -\$12 (spent OOP) / 9 months remaining in the year.

Subsequent Monthly Cap \$396.11 (M3P Balance) + \$4 (New OOP \$) / 8 months remaining in the year

Key Takeaways on the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan (M3P)

- If you have high drug costs towards the first half of the year or have a high drug cost that you might have difficulty affording, you may benefit from opting-in to the M3P/MPPP. These beneficiaries should be well-educated on costs prior to filling their prescriptions.
- If you have the same drug cost each month, stable costs throughout the year or are eligible for LIS or Medicaid, you may experience a "Balloon mortgage" type of payment structure in the M3P. You are not likely to benefit from opting-in the M3P.
- 3 If point 3 applies to you, M3P payments are likely to be higher in NOVEMBER/DECEMBER.
- 4 Review your prescription costs and the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan with your agent or Part D Plan to determine if it right for you.

PART C & D: ENROLLMENT PERIODS

Initial Enrollment Period (IEP)

- When you first become eligible for Medicare Part A & B (usually 65th birthday), you are eligible to enroll in a Medicare Advantage or Prescription Drug Plan
- This 7-month enrollment period includes the 3 months before your birthday, the month of your birthday, and the 3 months after

Annual Election Period (AEP)

- October 15th December 7th
- You may add, drop, or switch a Medicare Advantage plan or PDP plan annually
- The last application Medicare receives by December 7th will provide coverage effective January 1st



PART C & D: ENROLLMENT PERIODS

Special Enrollment Period (SEP)

A Special Enrollment Period (SEP) is based on special circumstances, allowing enrollment in a plan outside of the AEP.

Examples of situations resulting in a SEP include:

- Change in residence
- Involuntary loss of credible drug coverage
- Exceptional conditions such as
 - Gaining or losing Medicaid eligibility or Part D low-income subsidy
 - Changing employer/union group sponsored MA coverage
 - Enrollment based on incorrect or misleading information
 - Non-U.S. citizens who become lawfully present in the United States
 - Individuals who dropped a Medigap policy when they enrolled for the first time in an MA plan, and who are still in a "trial period"
 - Individuals with certain chronic conditions who wish to enroll in a qualifying SNP

There may be other circumstances that qualify you for a SEP. Reach out to your agent to discuss your specific situation.





PART C & D: ENROLLMENT PERIODS

Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period (OEP)

- January 1st March 31st
- You have the opportunity to:
 - Switch to a different Medicare Advantage plan
 - Drop your Medicare Advantage plan and return to Original Medicare, Part A and Part B
 - Sign up for a stand-alone Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan (if you return to Original Medicare)
 - Enroll into a supplement (medical underwriting may be required)





PART C & D: QUALITY OF PLANS

The Medicare Program grades all health and prescription drug plans each year on overall performance based on member satisfaction surveys and health care provider data. This overall rating is called the plan's "Star Rating".

Examples of the areas covered by this rating include:

- How well a plan helps manage members with critical illnesses.
- How members rate their plan's services and care.
- How plans and their providers engage members in using preventive care.

Beneficiaries have a once-a-year SEP to transfer to a 5-star rated plan if there is one available in their service area.





MEDICARE PLAN SELECTION POINTERS



Are your primary care doctor and specialists in the plan's network?



Does your selected plan meet your personal and financial needs?



Should you choose to travel, will the plan provide adequate coverage?



Do you understand the prescription drug formulary? Does the plan cover your medications?





AGENT SELECTION POINTERS



Do they represent more than one company, or do they only represent a single insurance carrier?



Do they specialize in Medicare?



Are they kind, thoughtful and thorough when helping you evaluate your options?



Do they review all the Medicare Plan Selection Pointers?

RESOURCES & CONTACT



800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227)

TTY: 877-486-2048

- State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP)
- Visit <u>www.medicare.gov</u>





Contact me:

