Drug Pricing Proposals to Unlock an Affordable Future

1. **Stop patent abuse.** To increase competition and lower patient and plan sponsor costs, it is imperative for policymakers to end the anticompetitive tactics used by big drug companies.

2. **Reserve market exclusivities for true innovation.** Innovation without affordability undermines patient access. Addressing overlong exclusivity periods for biologics and orphan indications will create more competition and lead to lower overall drug costs for patients.

3. **Ensure drugs can compete fairly.** Preventing practices like “shadow pricing” and abuses of the FDA’s citizen petition process will improve the competitive market.

4. **Promote generic and biosimilar competition.** The most effective way to reduce prescription drug costs is to increase competition in the marketplace.

5. **Ensure a competitive Medicare Part D Prescription drug market.** Care should be taken to incentivize production of competing products and improve the functionality of the prescription drug market as the drug pricing provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act are implemented.

6. **Promote pharmacy networks.** Policies that restrict pharmacy benefit companies’ ability to develop pharmacy networks drive costs up, while well-managed pharmacy networks offer savings to both plan sponsors and enrollees.

7. **Support and partner with clinicians on prescription drug affordability.** Electronic pharmacy benefit tools reduce administrative burden and speed access, enabling clinicians to allocate more time to direct patient care.

8. **Encourage use of lower cost care options.** Decisions made about sites of care and drug products selected have cost implications for patients and plan sponsors.

9. **Accelerate value-based care.** Greater adoption of value-based purchasing and accelerating patient-focused pharmacy care can improve health outcomes.

10. **Advance use of real-world evidence to protect patient safety.** Clinicians need accurate, scientifically reliable information on prescription drugs throughout their lifecycles, from pre-approval to post-market surveillance, and research into side effects and long-term efficacy for expedited approvals.

11. **Enable flexibility.** Pharmacy benefit companies serve people along the full spectrum of life circumstances and are best able to meet patients’ needs when pharmacy benefit tools and offerings are fully available.

12. **Cover what works for patients.** When new drugs come to market with limited clinical trials, a lot of questions remain related to the long-term risks and benefits.

Scan the QR code or click here to view the entire Affordable Future platform.

ABOUT PCMA

PCMA is the national association representing America’s pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs). PBMs administer prescription drug plans for more than 266 million Americans who have health insurance from a variety of sponsors including: commercial health plans, self-insured employer plans, union plans, Medicare Part D plans, the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP), state government employee plans, Medicaid plans, and others.