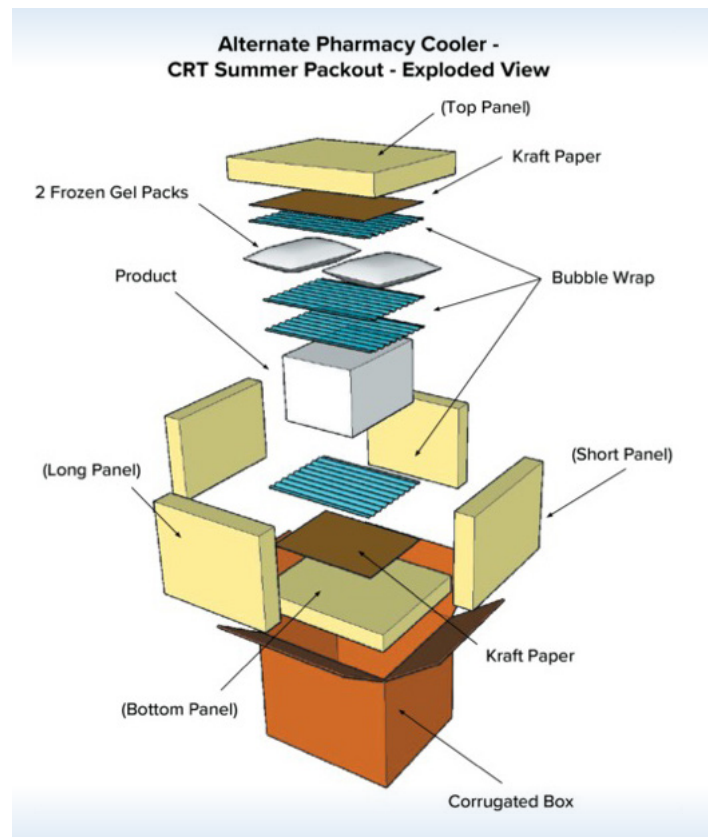


Home Delivery Pharmacy: A Safe, Convenient, Affordable Option for Patients

Many Americans rely on home delivery pharmacies because they provide convenient, safe, and affordable access to prescription drugs. Home delivery pharmacies offer many advantages, including improved health outcomes, by providing better adherence, greater access to care, and larger savings. Like other pharmacies, these home delivery pharmacies are licensed by state boards of pharmacy and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) which regulate their safety and operations.

Home delivery pharmacies are safe, cost-effective, and improve health outcomes.

- » Home delivery pharmacies offer an unmatched level of convenience and safety for maintenance medications that are taken regularly for chronic conditions. As stated by IQVIA, "Consistent and convenient access to chronic medicines is noted as one of the key drivers of medication adherence, which is linked to improved outcomes."¹
- » PBM home delivery pharmacies access a patient's entire prescription history regardless of where they fill their prescription and help detect any harmful contraindications or drug interactions.
- » Drugs are safely mailed to the patient or provider and help with greater access to care. Medications that require shipment under certain temperatures are shipped using lab-tested technology to ensure the medication arrives within the manufacturer's recommended temperature.
- » Newer specialty medications require high-touch engagement, financial assistance, and clinical care coordination. Improved health outcomes are achieved by performing daily screenings, medication adherence surveys, and use in-home nursing models.
- » Pharmacists are available 24 hours a day to answer any questions that a patient may have about their medications, side effects, or their disease.



URAC, a nationwide accrediting body, indicated that accredited home delivery pharmacies filled prescriptions with 99.99% dispensing accuracy and 99.97% distribution accuracy.²

Incentives for patients to use home delivery allow patients to share in savings.

- » Home delivery pharmacies leverage their high-volume purchasing to reduce drug cost, which results in less cost to the plan than in retail settings. Where permitted, plans can pass on savings to patients in the form of lower cost sharing when choosing home delivery.
- » Prohibiting plan sponsors--employers, unions, government—from choosing to encourage the use of home delivery pharmacies, which are safer³ and more affordable than retail settings, drives up drug costs and increases revenue for retail pharmacies at the expense of patients and health plan sponsors.

Independent pharmacies, while serving an important role in plan networks, do not need bailouts.

- » Independent pharmacies are important partners to pharmacy benefit companies and health plans, but these settings should not be the only option for patients. The independent pharmacy industry is stable and their numbers and profitability have remained steady over the last 10 years.⁴ Ultimately, home delivery pharmacies are dispensing just a small portion of prescriptions in the U.S.⁵
- » PBMs rely on independent pharmacies to meet network adequacy standards and provide greater patient access.

**Support the use of home delivery pharmacies to save patients
and plan sponsors money and increase access to drugs.**

1 "The Use of Medicines in the U.S. Spending and Usage Trends and Outlook to 2025" 2021. IQVIA.

2 The full use of home delivery pharmacy could save consumers and plan sponsors close to \$60 billion over a ten-year period. "Mail-Service and Specialty Pharmacy Will Save More than \$300 Billion for Consumers, Employers, and Other Payers Over the Next 10 Years" 2014. Visante. <https://www.pcmagnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Visante-Mail-and-Specialty-Savings.pdf>; See also, PCMA. 2023. "Mail-Service Pharmacy." <https://www.pcmagnet.org/mail-service-pharmacy/>.

3 Error rate of almost one in every 50 prescriptions at drugstores, compared to less than one in every 1,000 prescriptions at highly automated mail service pharmacies. See Teagarden, J.R. et al., "Dispensing Error Rate in a Highly Automated Mail-Service Pharmacy Practice." 2005. Pharmacotherapy. Available at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16232024/>.

4 PCMA. 2023. "The Independent Pharmacy Market is Stable." <https://www.pcmagnet.org/the-independent-pharmacy-marketplace-is-stable-2023/>.

5 "Five Surprising Facts about COVID-19 Prescription Trends for Retail and Mail Pharmacies." Drug Channels. 2020. <https://www.drugchannels.net/2020/08/five-surprising-facts-about-covid-19.html>.

ABOUT PCMA

PCMA is the national association representing America's pharmacy benefit companies. Pharmacy benefit companies are working every day to secure savings, enable better health outcomes, and support access to quality prescription drug coverage for more than 275 million patients. Learn more at www.pcmagnet.org.