

Pharmacy Benefit Companies Support Rural Independent Pharmacies

Pharmacies are important points of care for many patients across the U.S. This can especially be true for patients in rural areas, who may depend on their pharmacist for clinical services—such as vaccinations and help managing chronic conditions—in addition to filling their prescriptions.

Pharmacists Are Vital Health Care Providers to Patients in Rural Areas

- ✓ Rural independent pharmacies have different needs than pharmacies in non-rural areas, given their locations and the populations they serve.
- ✓ Pharmacists often “practice at the top of their license,” providing a variety of clinical services that go beyond dispensing medication.

Pharmacy Benefit Companies Support Pharmacies

- ✓ Pharmacy benefit companies support policies that enable pharmacists, where appropriate, to expand and be reimbursed for their clinical service offerings.
- ✓ Pharmacy benefit companies are working with rural independent pharmacies to increase reimbursement to help them provide high quality care to patients.

PHARMACY BENEFIT COMPANIES PARTNER WITH AND SUPPORT RURAL INDEPENDENT PHARMACIES AND THEIR PATIENT POPULATIONS.



Reimbursing rural independent pharmacies at higher rates than non-rural pharmacies



Developing pharmacy networks to support rural independent pharmacies



Expanding reimbursement for clinical services performed in rural independent pharmacies

Rural Patient Population Programs

Patients who live in rural areas may have unique needs and pharmacy benefit companies have programs designed to identify and assist these patients. Analyzing patient information, pharmacy benefit companies can identify patients in rural areas who may need additional support, including connecting them to available pharmacies and other sources of clinical and social resources—for example, diaper banks and food banks—to help them lead healthier lives.

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.pcmnet.org.