# Drug Pricing, Repricing, Rebates, and Patient Access

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#### **Credits and Notes**



 Some of my drug policy research has been done under contract with the Kaiser Family Foundation

Find links to full reports:
 hpi.georgetown.edu/medicarepartd

 Thanks to Kaiser Family Foundation and the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission for use of their slides

#### **Outline**



- Background basics
- How are drugs priced?
- Who gets what rebate?
- How are drugs re-priced over time?
- Do payer actions affect patient access
- Looking to the future

#### **Background**

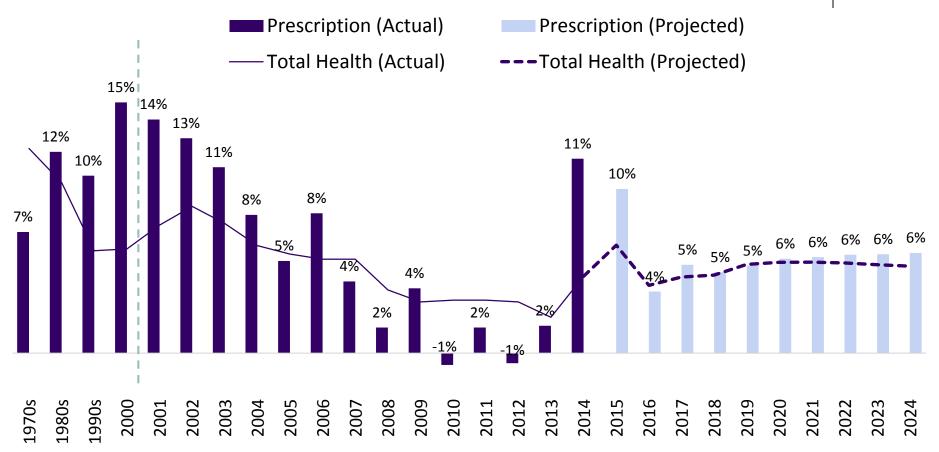


- Drug spending trends
- Brands, generics, and specialty drugs
- Components of the drug supply chain
- Flow of dollars for drug purchases
- Drug pricing terminology and definitions

# **Drug Spending Growth, 1970s-2024**

Average annual growth per capita, actual and projected





**NOTE:** Average annual growth rate of prescription drug spending per capita for 1970's – 1990's; annual change in actual prescription drug spending per capita 2000 – 2014 and projected prescription drug spending per capita 2015 – 2024. 2014 to 2015 percent changes are calculated using 2014 actual and 2015 projected amounts.

**SOURCE**: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of National Health Expenditure (NHE) Historical (1960-2014) and Projected (2014-2024) data from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of the Actuary, National Health Statistics Group (Accessed on December 7, 2015)

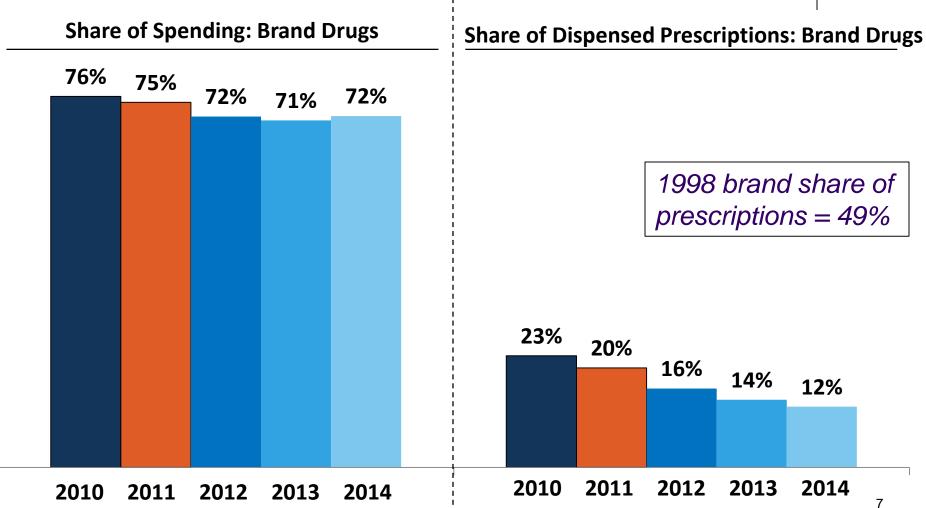
# **Drug Spending as Share of Health**



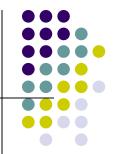
- Retail drug spending = all spending at outlets that directly serve patients
  - 1965-2015: as low as 6% of health spending versus
    12% today
- Non-retail drug spending = spending by medical providers for drugs they provide to patients
  - Inpatient hospital, outpatient hospital, physicians' offices, infusion centers
  - 2009-2015: about 4-5% of health spending
- Combined retail and non-retail drug spending:
  - 2015: 17% of spending on personal health services

#### **Brand Versus Generic Drugs, 2010-2014**





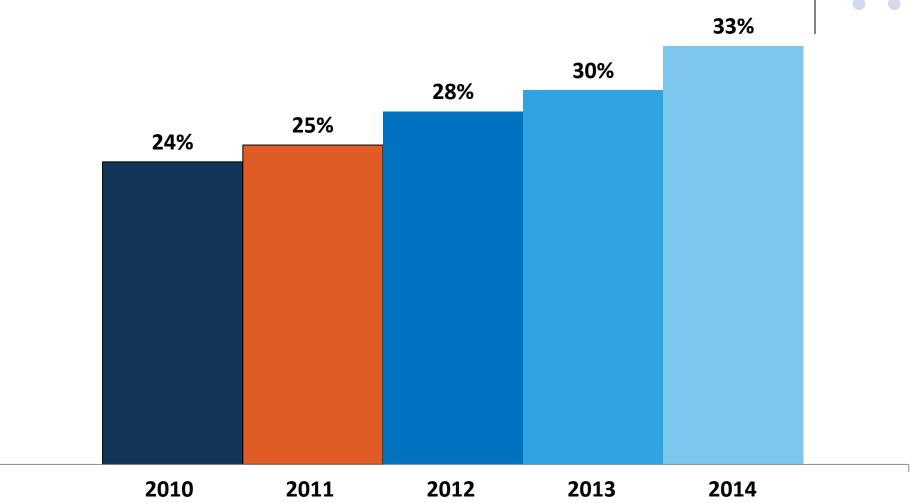
## **Specialty versus Traditional Drugs**



- No universal definition
- Characteristics tend to include:
  - Expensive (at least \$600/month for Part D)
  - Manufactured in living systems (biologicals)
  - Difficult to administer; may be injected or infused
  - Prescribed by specialist physicians
  - May require complex patient follow-up, monitoring
  - Used to treat serious conditions for which few or no alternative therapies available
  - Administered through specialty pharmacies
  - Require special handling (temperature control)

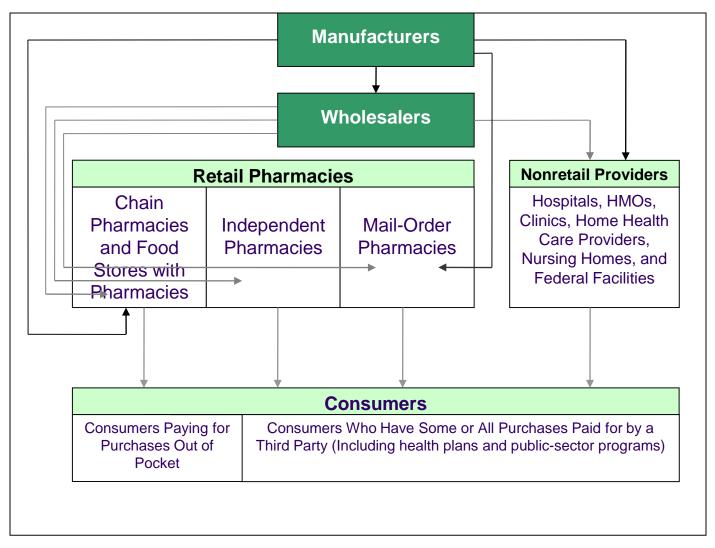
#### **Spending on Specialty Drugs, 2010-2014**

As Share of Total Spending



# **Supply Chain for Drug Delivery**





# **Supply Chain Functions**

#### Manufacturers

- Develop, produce, and market drugs
- Set list prices as a basis for price negotiations
- Negotiate rebates and discounts with plans or PBMs

#### Wholesalers

- Link manufacturers with outlets that dispense drugs
- Help smaller pharmacies negotiate with generic manufacturers

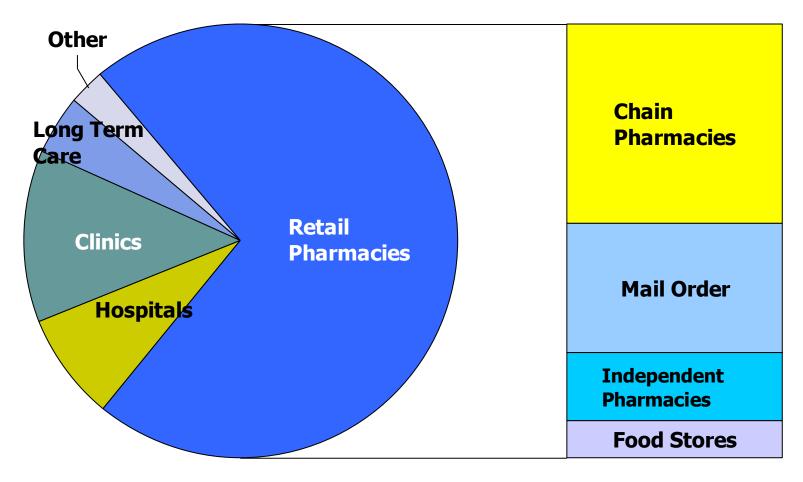
#### Pharmacies

- Stock drugs and fill prescriptions on demand
- Negotiate discounts with generic drug manufacturers
- Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs)
  - Administer drug benefit for health plan or employer
  - Build pharmacy networks
  - Negotiate rebates with manufacturers

# **Supply Chain Market Shares**

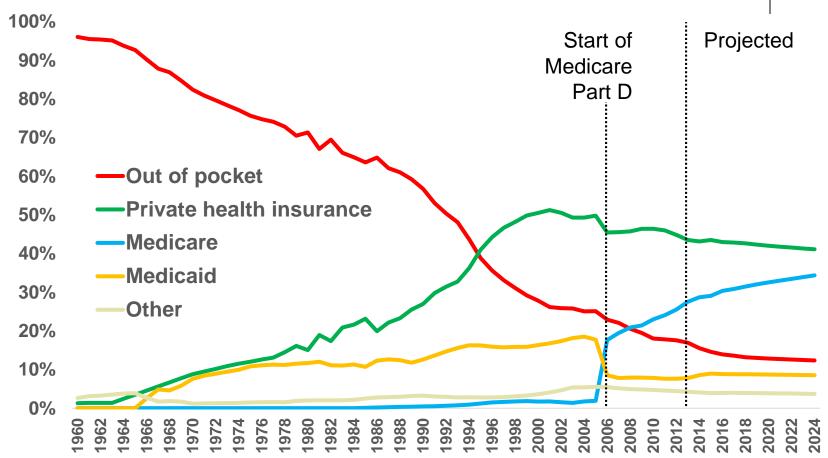


#### By non-discounted spending, 2014



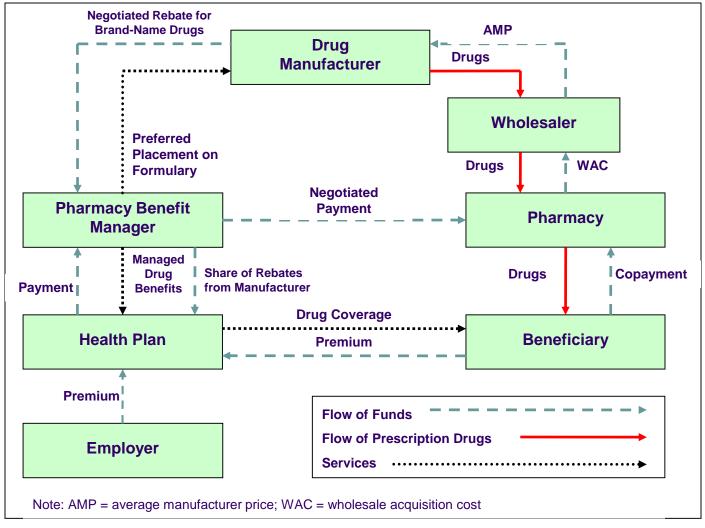
#### Drug Spending by Payer, 1960-2024





#### Flow of Funds for a Brand Drug

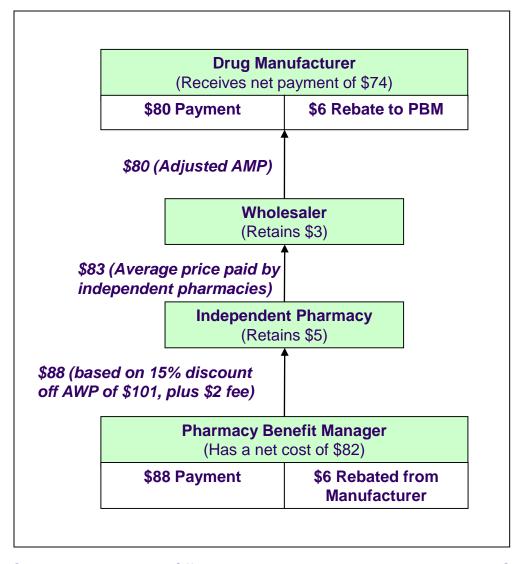




Source: Congressional Budget Office, Prescription Drug Pricing in the Private Sector, 2007

# **Pricing for a Brand Drug**





## **How Are Drugs Priced?**

- What is the "price"?
- Pricing rationales
- Factors influencing pricing
- Price variation by payer

# What is the Price of a Drug?



#### List prices

- AWP = average wholesale price, defined as the published list price that wholesalers post for retailers and other providers
- WAC = wholesale acquisition cost, defined as list prices posted by manufacturers
- Price measures calculated by the government
  - AMP = average manufacturer price, defined as the average of prices actually paid by wholesalers and retailers who buy directly from manufacturers
  - ASP = average sales price, defined as the average price realized by manufacturers for sales to all purchasers net of rebates, discounts, and price concessions

#### Discounts

- Retail discounts = discounts available to large-volume retailers on purchases from wholesalers or manufacturers
- Manufacturer rebate = amounts paid by manufacturer to health plan or PBM to create a discount price

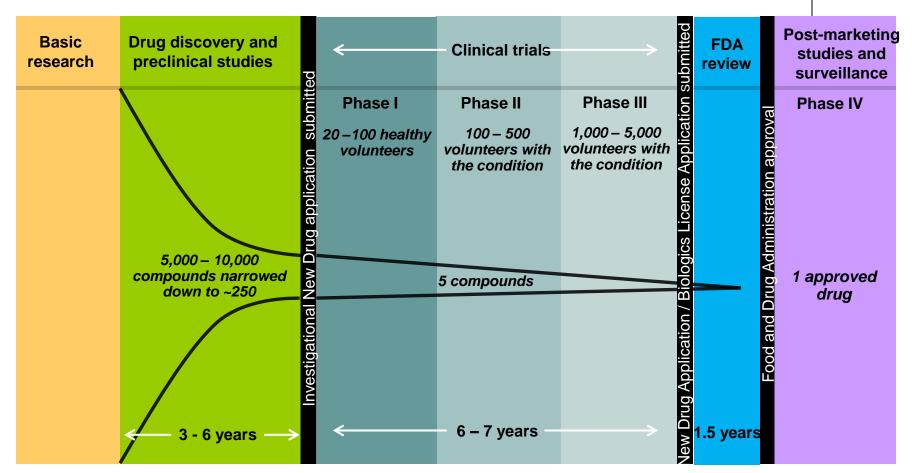
#### **Rationales for Launch Prices**



- Lack of transparency
- Cost of research & development
  - Industry estimate: \$2.6 billion for an average drug
    - Source: J. DiMasi et al, Innovation in the pharmaceutical industry: New estimates of R&D costs, Journal of Health Economics May 2016. Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development
- Savings accrued for the health care system as a result of taking the new drug
- Presence and pricing of competing therapies
- Strategic positioning relative to products on the market or coming soon

#### **Drug Discovery, Development and Review**

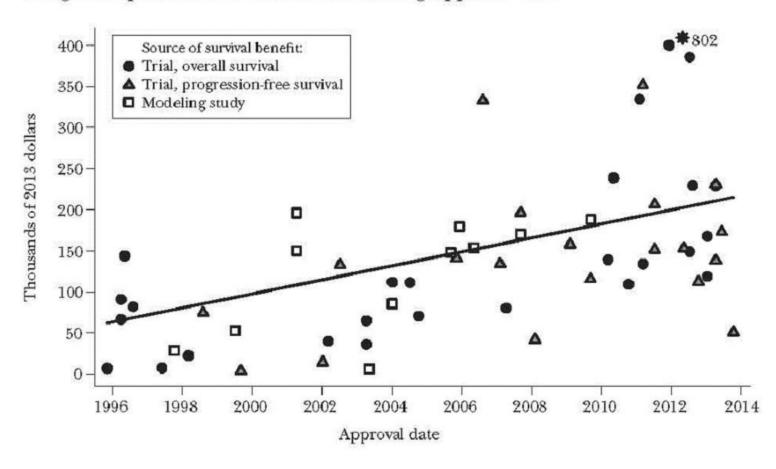




#### Price of Oncology Drugs per Life-Year Gained



#### Drug Price per Life Year Gained versus Drug Approval Date



#### Supply-Side Factors Influencing Prices



- Increasing complexity of biopharmaceuticals
- Emphasis on treatments for small disease populations (e.g., orphan drugs), often with few competing therapies
- Patents and temporary monopolies granted by the government
- Consolidation within biopharmaceutical industry
- Changes in the drug supply chain

#### **Demand-Side Factors Influencing Prices**

- Shift from out-pocket purchases by consumers to a third-party payment system
- Shift from private to public insurance
- Consolidation in the insurance industry
- Discounts and rebates mandated by law (Medicaid, VA, DOD, 340B program)
- Increased demand as the population ages

#### Who Gets What Rebate?



- Factors influencing rebates
- Trends over time
- Public-sector rebates

#### **Factors Influencing Rebates**



- Proprietary
- Ability of a payer to grow market share for the manufacturer's drug
- Ability of a payer to move market share
  - Encouraging use of one manufacturer's drug over competing therapies

#### **Tools Payers Use in Negotiating Rebates**

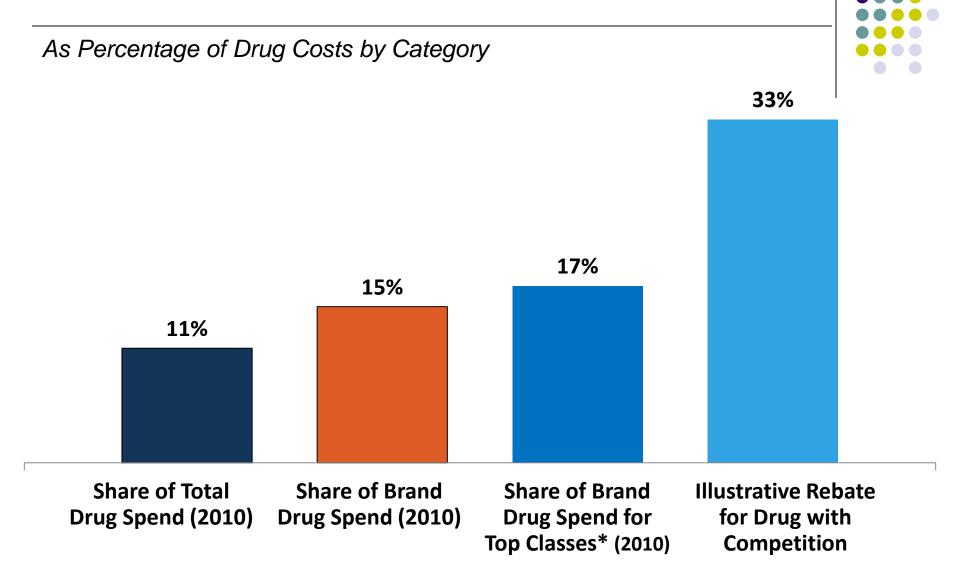


- Formulary management tools
  - Exclusion of competing drugs from the formulary
  - Preferential tier placement on the formulary, with lower cost sharing for the consumer
  - Utilization management tools, such as prior authorization, for competing drugs

#### Other factors

- Evidence of comparative effectiveness or clinical preferences
- Access to needed drugs for plan members
- Marketing considerations

#### **Estimated Rebate Amounts**

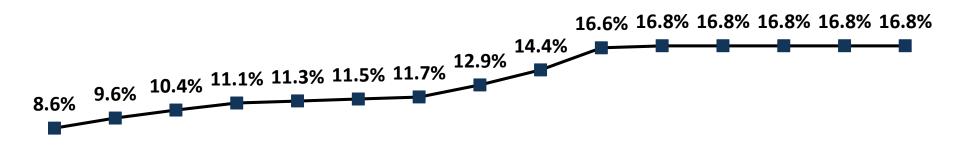


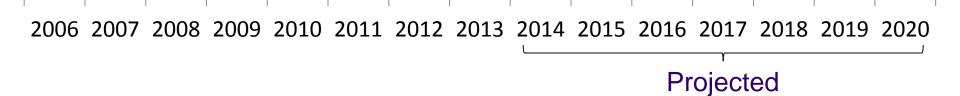
<sup>\*</sup> Refers to the top 53 therapeutic classes of drugs, which accounted for 70 percent of Part D spending in 2010 **SOURCE**: Adapted from Congressional Budget Office, Competition and the Cost of Medicare's Prescription Drug Program, July 30, 2014

#### **Trends in Medicare Part D Rebates, 2006-20**

As Percentage of Total Drug Costs







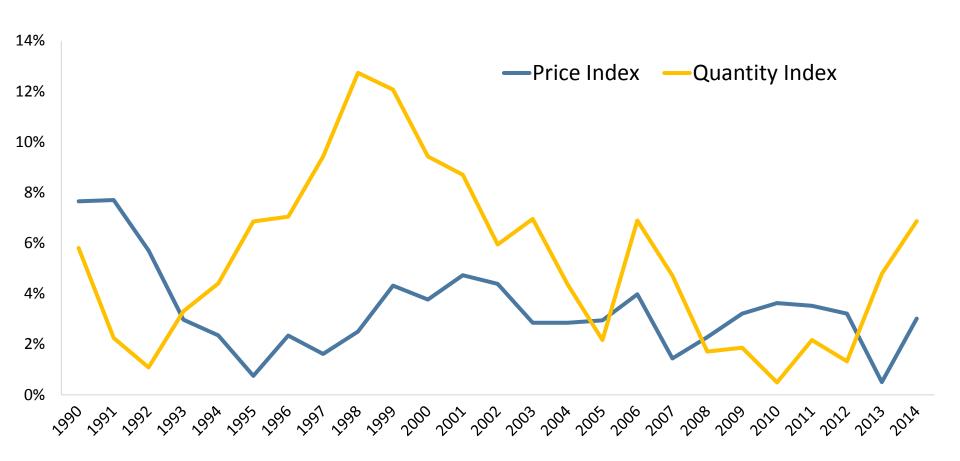
## **How Are Drugs Re-Priced?**



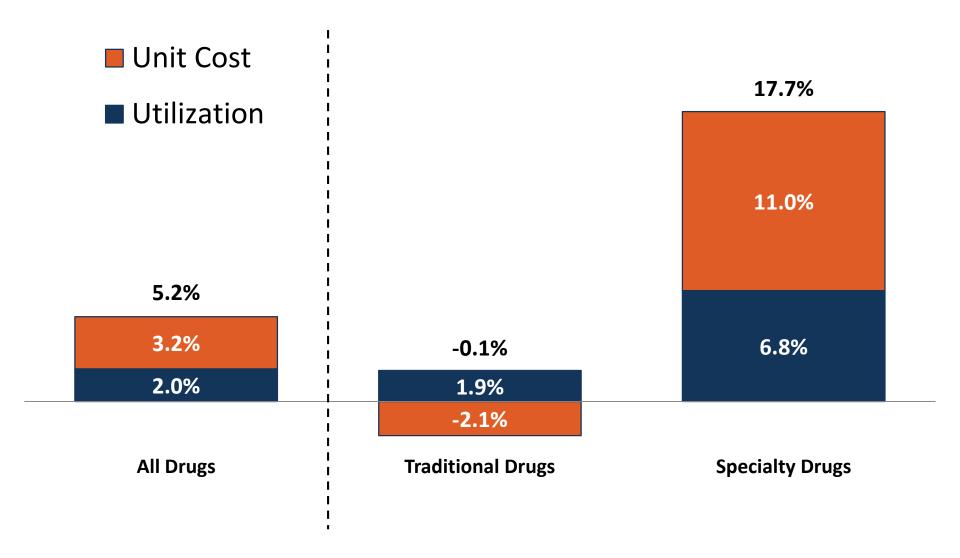
- Interaction of price and utilization
- Price trends over time
- Factors driving price changes for generics
- Impact of generic substitution
- Factors driving price changes for brand drugs, including specialty drugs

#### **Growth in Drug Prices and Utilization**

Annual percent change in price and quantity indexes of pharmaceutical and other medical products, index numbers 2009=100

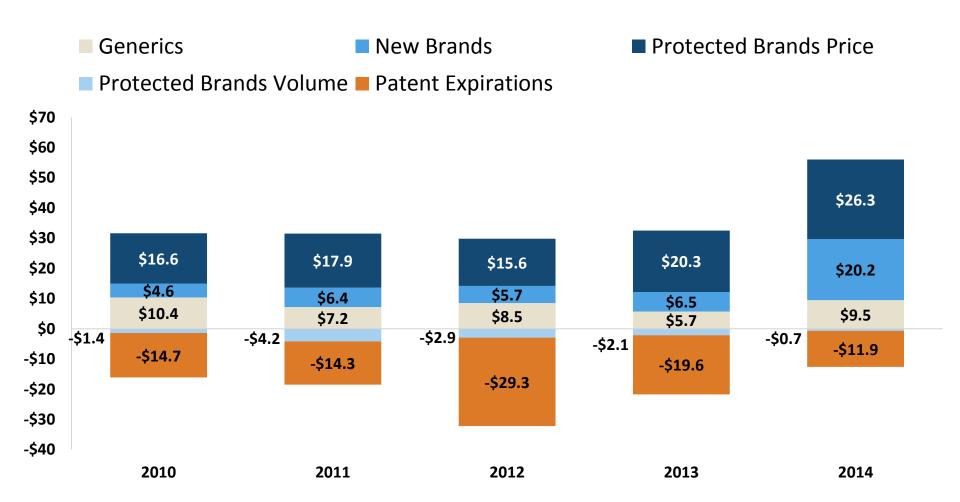


# Components of Drug Spending Trend, All Payers, 2015 versus 2014

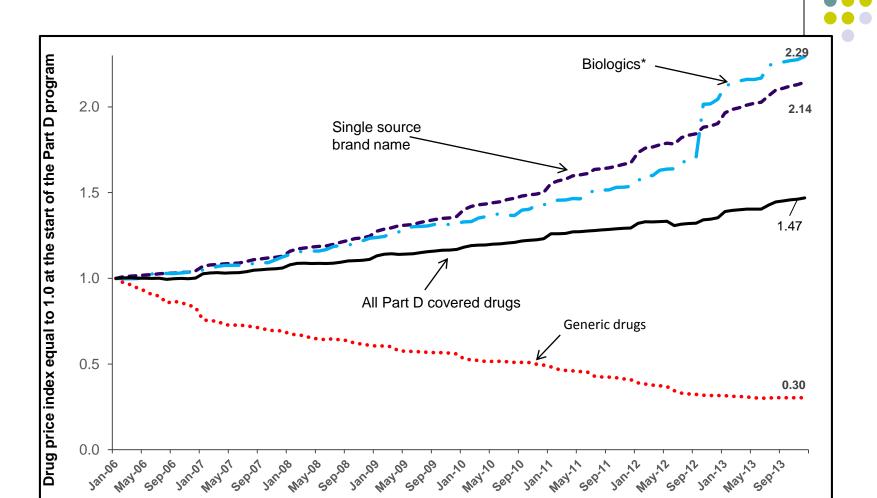


#### Components of Drug Spending Growth, 2010-2014

Contribution to growth in drug spending, by spending growth drivers, in billions, 2010 -2014



# Medicare Part D Drug Price Trends, by Brand-Generic-Biological Status, 2006-2013

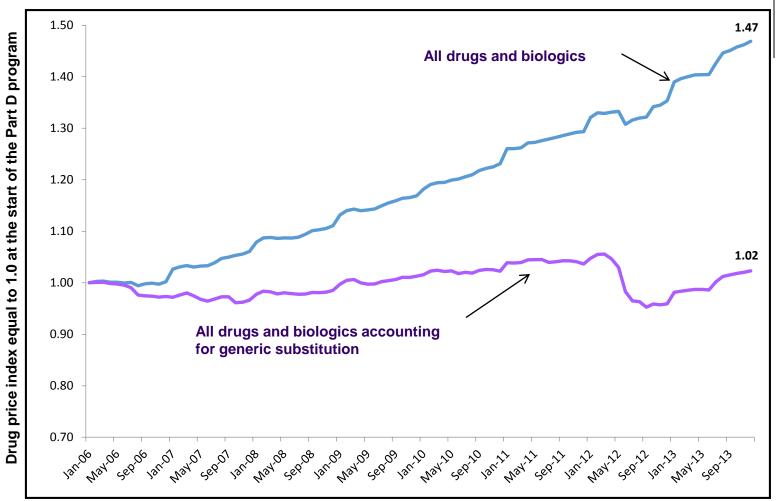


NOTE: Chain-weighted Fisher price indexes.

<sup>\*</sup> The shift in biologics price index in October 2012 is due in part to a change in how prescription quantifies were reported for Avonex.

# Part D Drug Price Trends, with Effects of Generic Substitution, 2006-2013





#### **Factor Driving Generic Price Changes**

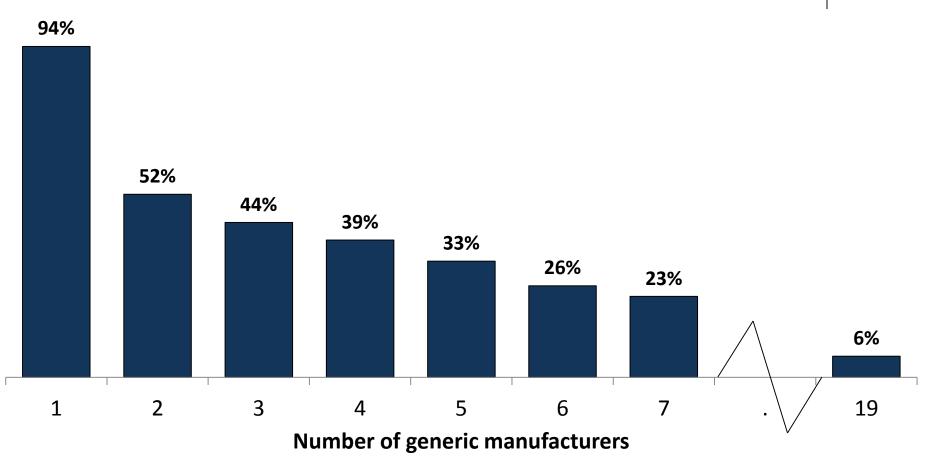


- Number of generic manufacturers in market
- Timing of generic approvals
- Special circumstances
  - Markets with limited entry of generics
  - Mergers and acquisitions, resulting in market concentration
  - Shortages resulting from permanent or temporary market exit
  - Special cases of new patents or market exclusivity (e.g., asthma drugs)

#### **Prices Relative to Number of Generic Entries**

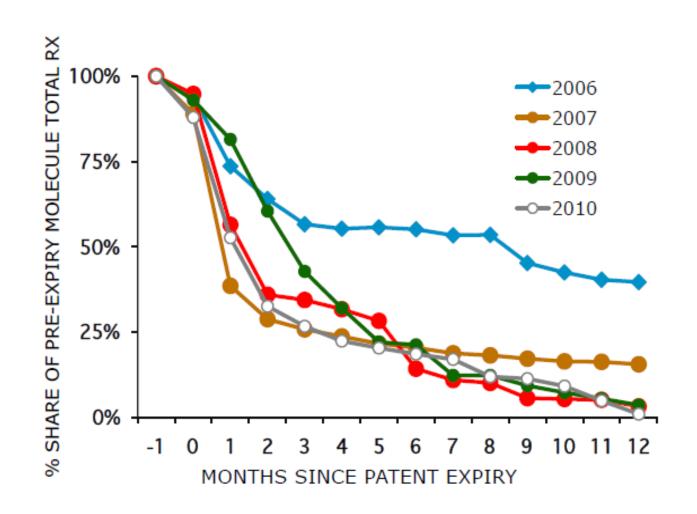


Average relative price per dose



## **Brand Share After Patent Expiration**





SOURCE: IMS Health, National Prescription Audit, February 2011, used from "The Use of Medicines in the United States: Review of 2010," IMS Institute for Healthcare Informatics.

### **Factors Driving Generic Substitution**



#### Traditional Drugs

 Automatic substitution by pharmacists with patient consent, based on state laws

#### Biosimilars

- Estimates of lower prices: 20% to 40% (CBO, European experience)
- FDA policies on interchangeability
- State laws on substitution of biosimilars
- Consumer and prescriber acceptance
- Public and private insurance rules

#### **Factors Driving Brand Price Changes**



- Introduction of competing therapies
- Other changes in competitive environment
- Negotiations with PBMs on behalf of plans and employers
- Stage in patent protection cycle

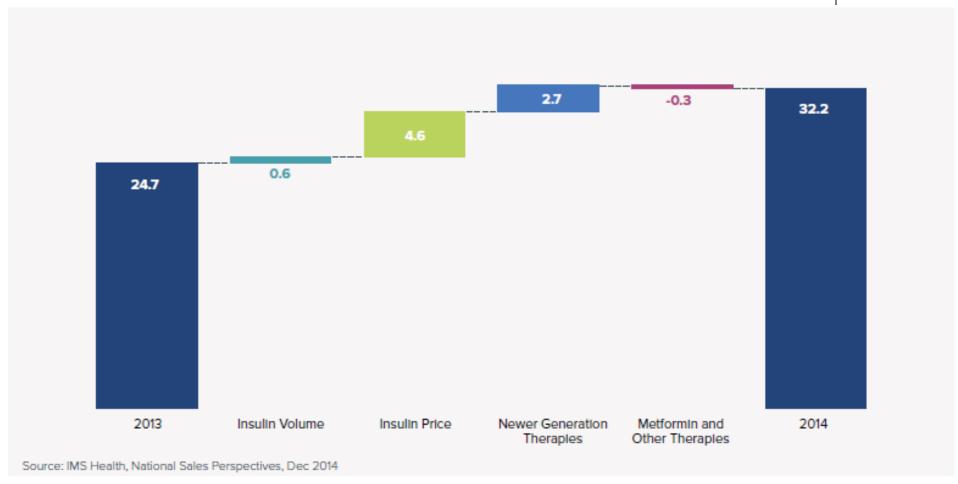
#### Price Increases, Diabetes Drugs, 2010-2015





## **Components of Diabetes Spending Growth,** 2013-2014

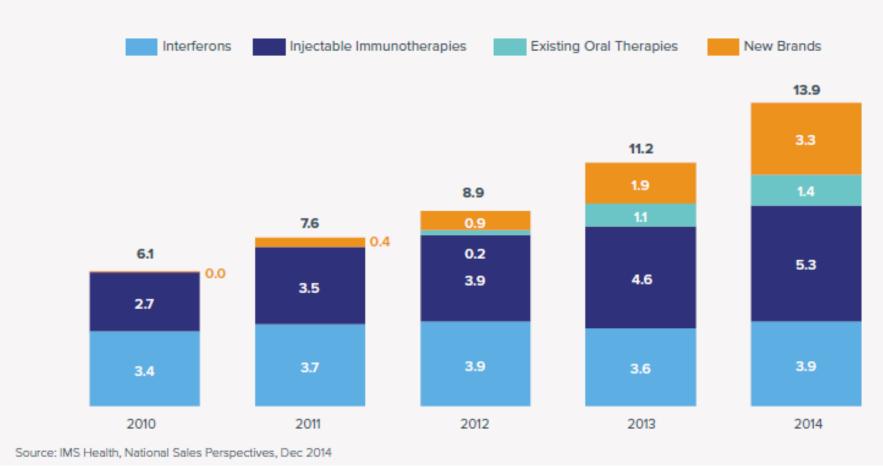
In billions of dollars



#### Changes in MS Drug Spending, 2010-2014

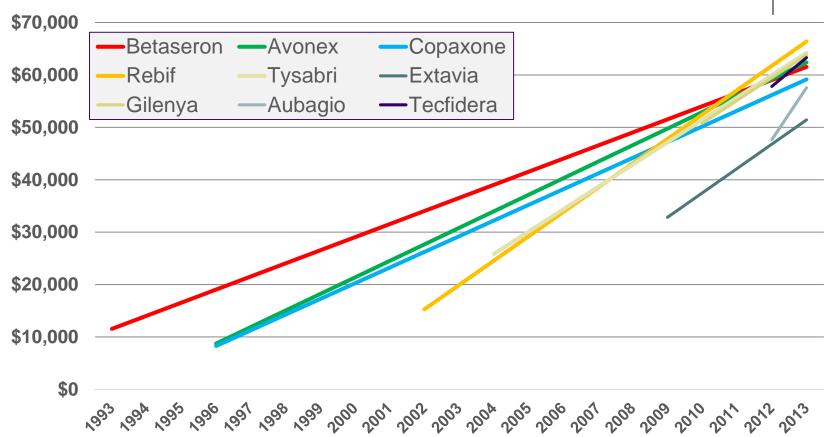
#### In billions of dollars





#### **MS Drug Prices from FDA Approval Date**



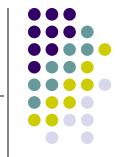


#### Do Payer Actions Affect Patient Access?

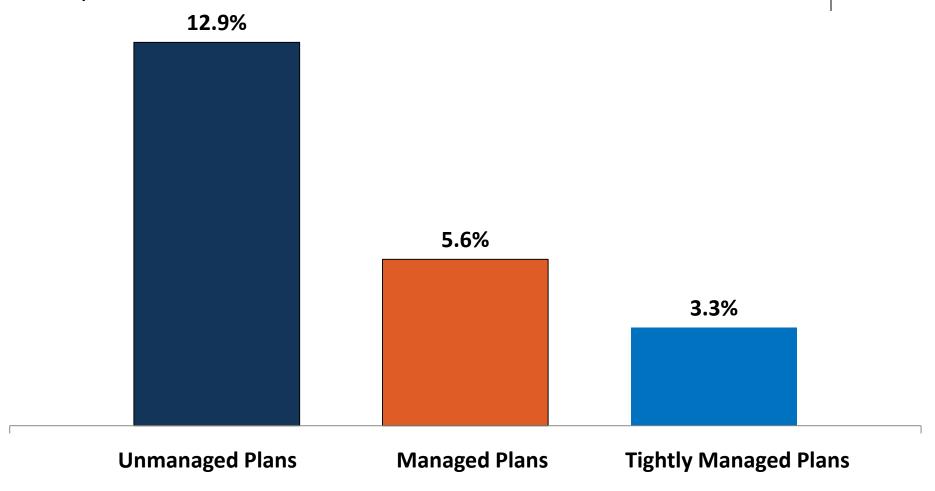


- Utilization management
  - Decisions by payers to raise or lower access barriers (e.g., PA criteria) in concordance with price negotiations (e.g., new hepatitis C drugs)
- Impact of price changes on the cost to consumers
  - Varying use of coinsurance versus copay
- Impact of closed and open formularies on consumers
- Effectiveness of appeals and exceptions

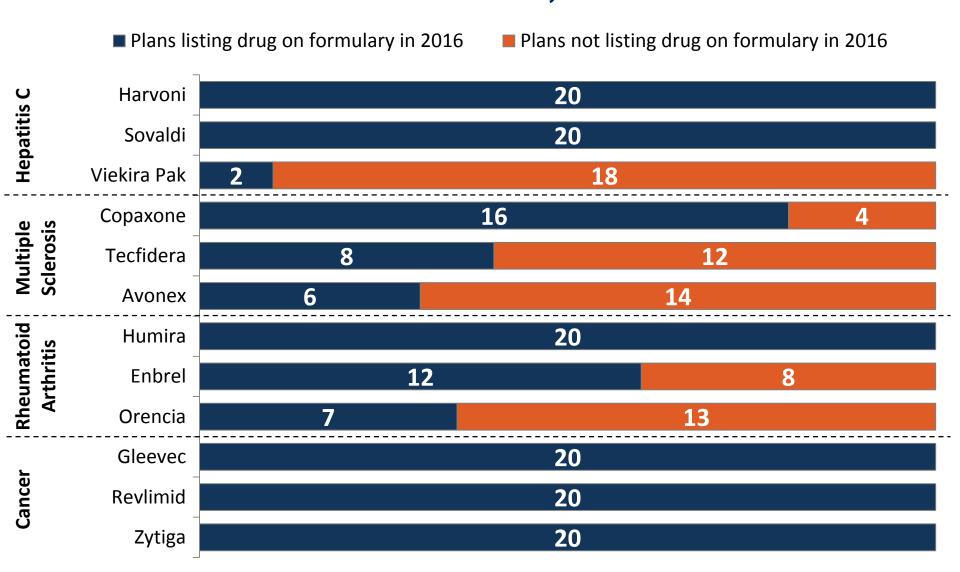
#### **Express Scripts Plan Management Strategies**



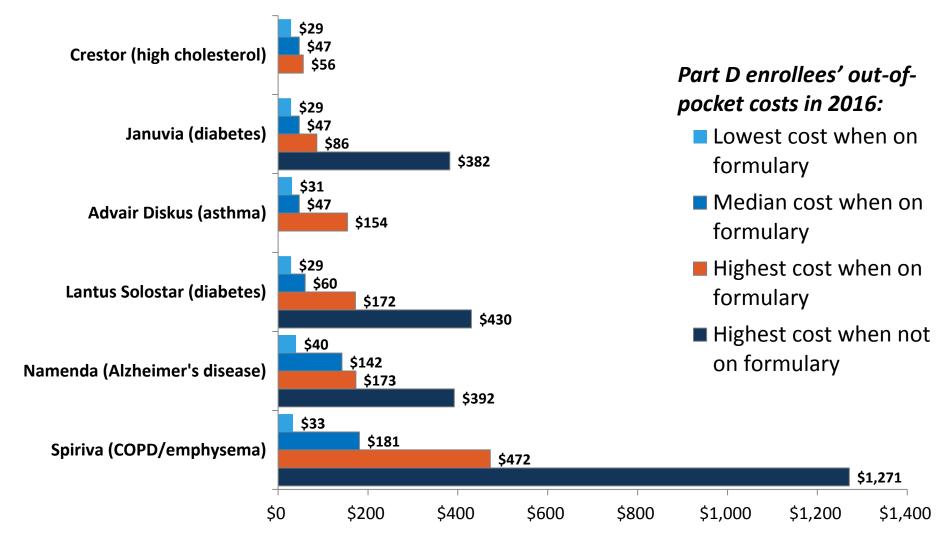
Average annual increase in per-member per-year spending, 2014-2015, compared to overall U.S. trend of 5.2%



# Formulary Coverage of Specialty Drugs Varies Across Medicare Part D Plans, 2016



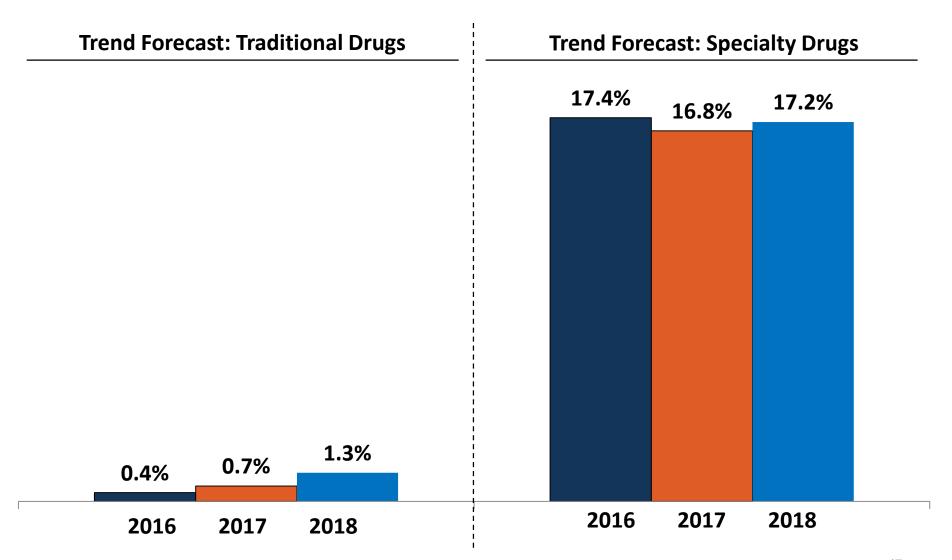
### Difference Between the Lowest and Highest Out-of-Pocket Monthly Cost, Brand Drugs, Medicare Part D, 2016



NOTE: Analysis includes 20 national and near-national stand-alone prescription drug plans in Baltimore, MD (zip code 21201) and reflects pricing at a Rite Aid pharmacy in this zip code.

SOURCE: Georgetown/Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of 2016 Medicare Plan Finder data.

#### Future Projected Trend, All Payers, 2016-2018



#### What Does the Future Hold?



- Factors to watch that will influence trends
  - Approvals of new drugs (brands, generics, biologics, biosimilars)
  - Trends in drug benefit management by public and private payers
  - Price sensitivity by consumers and prescribers
  - Price transparency
  - Evidence on comparative effectiveness
  - Innovations in value-based purchasing