

Summary of State Cost of Dispensing Studies (Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Vermont)

MAINE Pharmacy Cost of Dispensing Survey (October 2006)****

The study was conducted on behalf of the Maine Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance (GOHPF) and prepared by Michael Johnsrud, PhD, RPh and Kenneth Lawson, PhD, RPh, Center for Pharmacoeconomic Studies, The University of Texas at Austin.

The study concluded that the cost to dispense weighted by the number of prescriptions dispensed was \$10.20 and the mean cost to dispense weighted by the number of pharmacies reporting was \$11.16. The study was based on 2005 financial data. Personnel costs represented half of the cost to dispense. The response rate was 77% (approximately 50% of independent pharmacies and 84% of the chain pharmacies). The study was financed by the MaineCare Pharmacy Program.

Note: Current COD is \$3.35 (MaineRx) and \$2.35 [MaineRxDEL(Drugs for the Elderly)]

MARYLAND (December 7, 2006)

The Joint Chairmen's Report required the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to study and report on the costs to pharmacies of Medicaid patients.

The Report, an Analysis of Cost of Prescription Drug Dispensing in Maryland was prepared by the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (Pharmaceutical Health Services Research Department). They received 387 responses out of the 1,100 pharmacies in the state. The study determined that the average cost to dispense was \$11.71.

Note: Current COD is \$3.69 for generic drugs and preferred brand name drugs and for other brand name drugs it is \$2.69. Grant Thornton: \$10.36

Survey of the Average Cost of Filling a Medicaid Prescription in the State of MINNESOTA (December 2006)

This study was prepared by Myers and Stauffer for the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The study found the statewide average (mean) cost of dispensing weighted by Medicaid volume, was \$9.59 per prescription. There were 515 of 1,078 pharmacies that completed surveys that could be included in the analysis.

Note: Current COD is \$3.65 and Grant Thornton found \$10.30 (mean).

NORTH DAKOTA (June 21, 2006)****

According to PharmAccount Financial Services the cost to dispense is \$8.59 (median).

Note: Current COD is \$5.60 generics and \$4.60 for brands.

VERMONT

Medicaid Generic Reimbursement Reductions and Dispensing Fee Study (January 2007)

The study was conducted on behalf of The Office of Vermont Health Access (“OVHA”) and prepared by the University of Connecticut School of Pharmacy. The usable response rate was 42.5% (64 surveys).

The study concluded that the average cost of dispensing individual prescriptions in pharmacies serving Vermont Medicaid is \$10.55.

Note: Current fee: \$4.75 for in-state pharmacies and \$3.65 for out-of-state pharmacies. Grant Thornton: \$9.97 (mean).

****Grant Thornton did not include state level information for this state either because the number of pharmacies for which complete data was submitted was very small or due to confidentiality concerns if the data was presented fully.