Information from

Representative

Ron Herrell

Updated Information

Discount drug cards: Savings for seniors

Millions of American seniors have incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid, yet struggle to pay for essential medications that Medicare does not fund.

Several pharmaceutical companies have developed discount cards for qualifying seniors. Details about some of the cards are given at the right. Please contact the companies listed for more information.

Eli Lilly and Co. LillyAnswers Card

•**Eligibility:** Medicare recipients earning less than $18,000 per person or $24,000 per couple; no existing prescription drug coverage.

•**Benefits:** $12 fee for a one-month supply of a Lilly retail drug.

•**Key drugs covered:** Evista (osteoporosis); Humulin (diabetes); Prozac (depression).

•**To apply:** Call 1-877-795-4559 or visit www.lillyanswers.com.

Pfizer Share Card

•**Eligibility:** Medicare recipients earning less than $18,000 per person or $24,000 per couple; no existing prescription drug coverage.

•**Benefits:** $15 for each 30-day supply of every medicine that is covered.

•**Key drugs covered:** Lipitor (cholesterol); Norvasc (high blood pressure, angina); Zyrtec (antihistamine); Aricept (Alzheimer's); Zoloft (depression and anxiety disorder).

•**To apply:** Call 1-800-459-4156 or visit www.pfizerforliving.com.

Together Rx

•**Eligibility:** Medicare recipients earning less than $28,000 per person or $38,000 per couple; no existing prescription drug coverage.

•**Benefits:** Save approximately 20 to 40 percent on brand-name medicines.

•**Key drugs covered:** Over 170 medicines from the founding members of Together Rx: Abbott Laboratories, AstraZeneca, Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc., Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, GlaxoSmithKline, Janssen Pharmaceutica Products, Novartis and Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc.

•**To apply:** Call 1-800-865-7211 or visit www.togetherrx.com

The Merck Patient Assistance Program

The Merck Patient Assistance Program provides Merck medicines free of charge to individuals with no prescription drug coverage and an income below $18,000 or below $24,000 for a household. The recipient must have exhausted other options, including HMOs, Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans' assistance, etc. For more information call 1-800-727-5400.

Nations Health Card

The United States Pharmaceutical Group, Inc. offers a free Nations Health Discount Prescription Plan which gives Medicare eligible individuals various discounts at over 41,000 pharmacies. For more information call 1-800-452-1334 or visit www.uspgi.com.

Additional information on various fee-based prescription drug cards is available from the non-profit Medicare Rights Center at www.medicarerights.org.

Worried about paying for your Prescriptions?

A few words about the HoosierRx Program from Representative Ron Herrell

HoosierRx, the state's prescription drug plan, provides benefits to low-income seniors who have no health insurance coverage for their prescription drug expenses. So far more than 14,500 Hoosiers have been helped, but funding is available to assist many more.

HoosierRx provides a discount card saving the user up to 50 percent off the expenses incurred for prescription drugs. Depending on your income, you could receive up to $1,000 in refunds per year. If you think you might be eligible, fill out a HoosierRx application today.

You may be eligible for HoosierRx if you:

1. Are at least 65 years old
2. Are not covered under prescription drug insurance or Medicaid
3. Have a monthly net income of $1,011 or less if you are single, or a monthly net income of $1,364 if you are married

Your net income is the income you receive after taxes, including income from wages; Social Security; pensions; interest from bank accounts, annuities, IRAs, CDs; and dividends.

How to apply

Fill out an application to see if you are eligible for the HoosierRx program. Indiana seniors may receive an application at their local pharmacy, download one from the HoosierRx website at **www.in.gov/HoosierRx** or call the program's toll-free number at **1-866-267-4679**.

Rep. Ron Herrell
Indiana House of Representatives
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
H30@in.gov

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