



**Division of Medical Services**

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Interested Persons and Providers

FROM: Elizabeth Pitman, Director, Division of Medical Services

DATE: January 21, 2022

SUBJ: Preferred Drug List Pool and Value-Based Purchasing

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As a part of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act process, attached for your review and comment are proposed rule revisions.

Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: [ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov) Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter's name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

If you have any comments, please submit those comments in writing, no later than February 21, 2022.

## NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Director of the Division of Medical Services of the Department of Human Services announces for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rule under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §§ 20-76-201, 20-77-107, and 25-10-129.

### **Effective May 1, 2022:**

The Director of the Division of Medical Services (DMS) is adding two provisions to the Arkansas State Medicaid Plan concerning prescription drugs. The provisions involve Preferred Drug Lists (PDL) and Value Based Purchasing (VBP). DMS is making these changes to combat the rising cost of pharmaceuticals while still providing Medicaid beneficiaries with quality care and access to medications. Working with a PDL allows for higher supplemental rebates from the manufacturer, due to buying power as more states participate. VBP allows for discount agreements directly with manufacturers on high cost medications outside of the PDL.

Provision 1: DMS adds that the state may join a PDL pool to maximize state supplemental rebates. The state will continue to select products participating in the Federal rebate program that will be in its PDL Program and will only receive state supplemental rebates for manufacturer's supplemental covered products included on the PDL list.

Provision 2: DMS adds that the state may enter value-based contracts with manufacturers on a voluntary basis. These contracts will be executed on the model agreement entitled "Value-Based Supplemental Rebate Agreement". The state may enter outcome-based contracts with manufacturers on a voluntary basis, the conditions of which would be agreed upon by both the state and the manufacturer.

The state estimates an annual savings of \$2,000,000, of which \$570,200 is state general revenue.

The proposed rule is available for review at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Rules Promulgation, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access and download the proposed rule at <https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/do-business-with-dhs/proposed-rules/>. Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: [ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov). All public comments must be received by DHS no later than February 21, 2022. Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter's name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

A public hearing by remote access only will be held on February 15, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Individuals can access this public hearing by calling 1-888-240-3210 and entering the conference code, **897 1946 7161**.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at 501-396-6428.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin. 4502035775

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Elizabeth Pitman, Director  
Division of Medical Services

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
STATE ARKANSAS

ATTACHMENT 3.1-A  
Page 5aa

AMOUNT, DURATION AND SCOPE OF  
SERVICES PROVIDED

Revised: ~~January 1, 2019~~ May 1, 2022

CATEGORICALLY NEEDY

12. Prescribed drugs, dentures and prosthetic devices; and eyeglasses prescribed by a physician skilled in diseases of the eye or by an optometrist (Continued)

a. Prescribed Drugs (continued)

- (4) The state is in compliance with section 1927 of the Social Security Act. The state will cover drugs of Federal rebate participating manufacturers. The state is in compliance with reporting requirements for utilization and restrictions to coverage. Pharmaceutical manufacturers can audit utilization data.

The state will be negotiating supplemental rebates in the Medicaid program in addition to the Federal rebates provided for in Title XIX. Rebate agreements between the state and pharmaceutical manufacturer(s) will be separate from the Federal rebates.

Effective May 1, 2022, the state may join a Preferred Drug List (PDL) pool to maximize state supplemental rebates. The state will continue to select products participating in the Federal rebate program that will be in its Preferred Drug List Program and will only receive state supplemental rebates for manufacturer's supplemental covered products included on the PDL.

A rebate agreement between the state and a participating drug manufacturer for drugs provided to the Medicaid program, submitted to CMS on May 24, 2016, and entitled, State of Arkansas Supplemental Rebate Agreement, has been authorized by CMS. Any additional versions of rebate agreements negotiated between the state and manufacturer(s) after May 24, 2016, will be submitted to CMS for authorization.

The state supplemental rebate agreements would apply to the drug benefit, both fee-for-service and those paid by contracted Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs), under prescribed conditions in Attachment C of the State of Arkansas Supplemental Rebate Agreement. State supplemental rebate agreements would apply to beneficiaries, including those made eligible under the Affordable Care Act receiving fee-for-service benefits and those that are enrolled under a Medicaid managed care organization agreement.

Supplemental rebates received by the State in excess of those required under the National Drug Rebate Agreement will be shared with the Federal government on the same percentage basis as applied under the national rebate agreement.

All drugs covered by the program, irrespective of a supplemental rebate agreement, will comply with the provisions of the national drug rebate agreement.

The supplemental rebate program does not establish a drug formulary within the meaning of 1927(d)(4) of the Social Security Act.

The state may enter into value-based contracts with manufacturers on a voluntary basis effective May 1, 2022+. These contracts will be executed on the model agreement entitled "Value-Based Supplemental Rebate Agreement". The state may enter into outcome-based contracts with manufacturers on a voluntary basis effective May 1, 2022+. The conditions of the outcome-based contract would be agreed upon by both the state and manufacturer.

The unit rebate amount is confidential and cannot be disclosed for purposes other than rebate invoicing and verification, in accordance with Section 1927(b)(3)(D) of the Social Security Act.

TN: 22-0006  
Supersedes TN:AR-18-12

Approved:

Effective: 05/01/2022

- (5) Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1396r-8 the state is establishing a preferred drug list with prior authorization for drugs not included on the preferred drug list. Prior authorization will be provided within a 24-hour turn-around from receipt of request and a 72-hour supply of drugs in emergency situations.

MARK-UP

AMOUNT, DURATION AND SCOPE OF  
SERVICES PROVIDED

Revised: ~~January~~ May 1, 2019 2022

MEDICALLY NEEDY

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a. Prescribed Drugs (continued)

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The state will be negotiating supplemental rebates in the Medicaid program in addition to the Federal rebates provided for in Title XIX. Rebate agreements between the state and pharmaceutical manufacturer(s) will be separate from the Federal rebates.

Effective 5/1/2022, the state may join a Preferred Drug List (PDL) pool to maximize state supplemental rebates. The state will continue to select products participating in the Federal rebate program that will be in its Preferred Drug List Program and will only receive state supplemental rebates for manufacturer's supplemental covered products included on the PDL.

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