

RESOLUTION 09.2019-05 (A-20)
INCREASE TRANSPARENCY BY PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS

ISMS Board Action Taken on 01/25/2020

Adopted Resolution 09.2019-05 (A-20), as amended by the Board of Trustees:

RESOLVED, that the Illinois State Medical Society adopt the following Pharmacy Benefits Manager requirements and work towards introduction of legislation that:

- requires pharmacy benefit managers operating in Illinois to make all pharmaceutical cost and coverage information (including but not limited to cost sharing, utilization management policies, formulary availability and therapeutic alternatives) available in an easily accessible format so that it may be accessed by patients, physicians and pharmacists as necessary prior to writing, dispensing or purchasing prescription medication. Accessible formats include but are not limited to online on a non-password protected web site, such as Application Program Interface (API) protocol; regular and large type print format upon request; voice or TTY activated phone options; and

- requires PBMs to update this information at least on a 24-hour basis; and

- requires PBMs to provide patients with written notification of medication denials that includes the reason for denial and a list of covered potential therapeutic alternatives and associated out-of-pocket cost estimates; and

- provides that PBMs shall not make changes to an individual enrollee's benefits or coverage policies during the enrollee's plan year, included but not limited to ensuring that individual patients retain access to covered prescriptions at the same cost-sharing and co-pay obligations if formulary changes affect an enrollee's current medication regimen; and

- provides that PBMs shall honor a prescription for the full duration of the prescription and not be limited to the plan year; and

- provides that all enrollees be notified at least 60 days prior to formulary changes or changes on medications among coverage tiers.

Council on Economics Recommendation to ISMS Board on 01/25/2020

The Council recommended adoption of this resolution.

The Council on Economics recommends that the ISMS Board of Trustees adopt Resolution 09.2019-05 (A-20).