



OHIO MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT CALL TO ACTION

Ohio officials have expressed they are not hearing from pharmacists – have a voice!

The Problem at Hand:

- Ohio elected officials uncovered a \$224 million spread between the amount CVS Caremark charged the State of Ohio for Medicaid prescriptions and the amount paid to dispensing pharmacies.
- As reported by the [Columbus Dispatch in June 2018](#), a report commissioned by Medicaid officials found that PBMs charged Ohio taxpayers three to six times as much for prescriptions for Medicaid patients as the industry standard.
- Ohio's Cost of Dispensing Study revealed an average cost of \$10.49 to dispense a prescription in the state of Ohio. Ohio pharmacies have experienced reimbursement below that threshold as they care for these patients.

Email Governor Mike DeWine's Health & Human Services Policy Advisors:

- Bridget.Harrison@governor.ohio.gov
- Bonnie.Ward@governor.ohio.gov
- Michael.Hall@governor.ohio.gov

Call and/or Email Your Respective State Senator and Representatives:

- To leave a telephone message for any Ohio Representative or Senator, call the Ohio Legislative Information Hotline at 1-800-282-0253. Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- <https://www.ourindependentvoice.com/find-your-legislators>
- To find your State Senator, access the [Senate Directory](#).
- To find your State Representative, access the [House of Representatives Directory](#).

Contact the Ohio Department of Medicaid:

- Executive Asst. to Director Corcoran, Department of Ohio Medicaid: Sherri.Trott@medicaid.ohio.gov
- Consumer Hotline: 1-800-324-8680

Send Tweets and Use #KeepOHRxOpen

- [@GovMikeDewine](#)
- [@OhioMedicaid](#)

Possible Talking Points to Reference When Contacting the Above Entities:

- According to records maintained by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, during the past three years, a net 177 pharmacies have closed in Ohio. Insufficient Medicaid reimbursements are a leading cause.
- 90,000 Medicaid patients will be affected when 252 Walgreen's stores in Ohio no longer accept CareSource.
- In rural areas like Nelsonville, Ohio where Fruth Pharmacy recently closed its doors, Medicaid patients report a 17-minute drive to the nearest pharmacy. For those Medicaid patients with mobility issues or transportation issues, their ability to access life-saving medications may be significantly impacted.
- Ohio Medicaid patients need reasonable access to Ohio pharmacies. Improved and fair Medicaid reimbursement is needed to keep pharmacy doors open and allow care for Ohio Medicaid patients. Unless Ohio takes action, more pharmacies may close which may result in reduced patient access.
- Ohio patients, taxpayers, pharmacies and Medicaid recipients need transparent, fair and adequate reimbursement for community pharmacies and the time is now. Leaders in Ohio need to hear from as many pharmacists as possible to take this important situation seriously.

December 10, 2019 – [NACDS Letter to Ohio Department of Medicaid](#)

** Please note that since this letter was submitted, the states of KY and PA have changed in that they are no longer considering using an established reimbursement rate floor but rather moving towards a carve out.