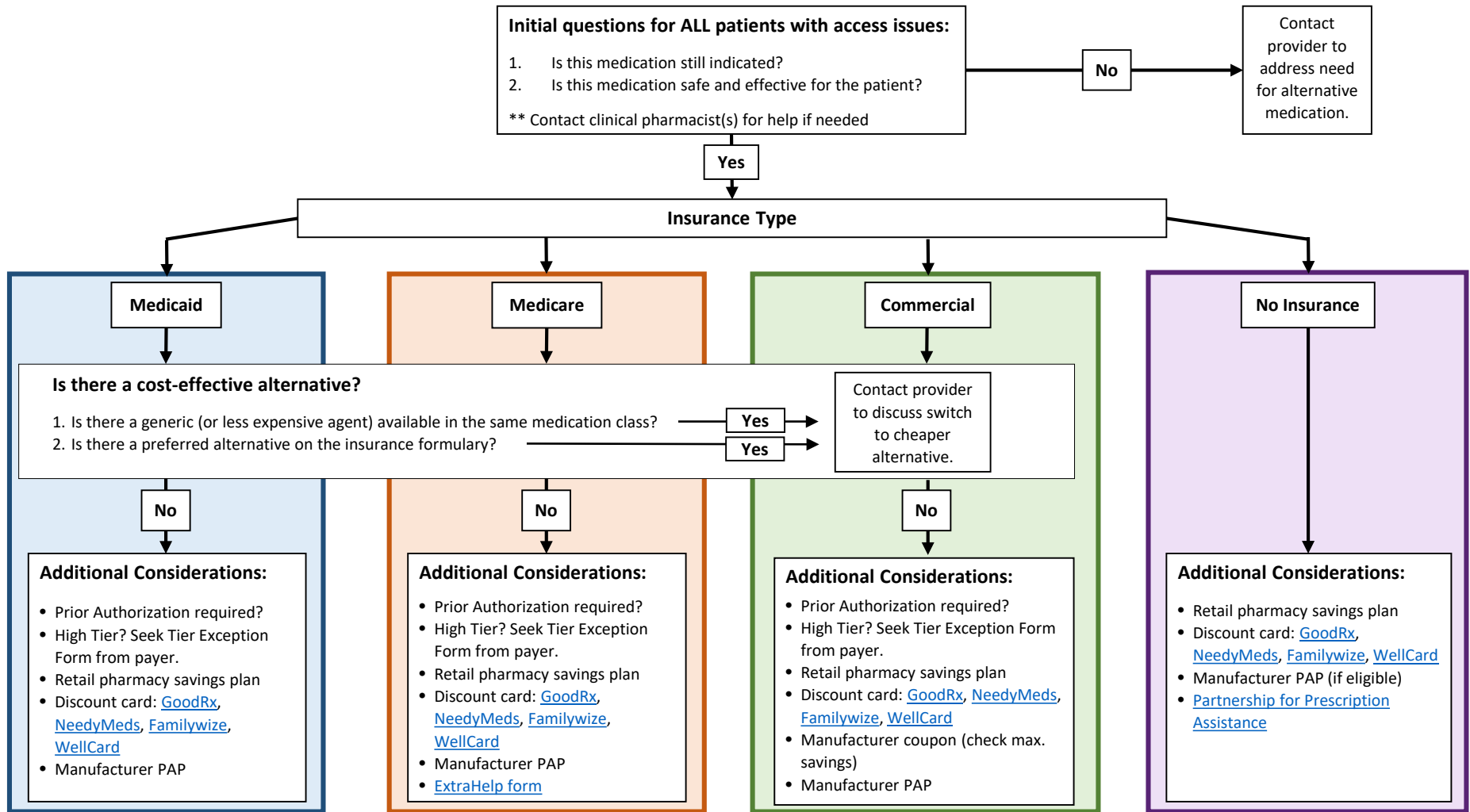


Toolkit: Helping Patients Afford Medications





Engaging patients in medication cost conversations

Step One:

Office staff conducts a one-question screening for each patient on medications:

“Is the cost of any of your medications a burden for you?”

A SAMPLE WORKFLOW FOR SCREENING AND ADDRESSING COST CONCERNS

Front-desk receptionist:

- Asks the patient to review his or her medication list, which involves crossing out inactive medications, writing down new medications, and circling any that are a cost burden.

Rooming nurse:

- Reviews the list with the patient in the exam room and confirms that the circled prescriptions are a cost burden.
- Adds concerns about the cost of the circled prescriptions to the patient’s chief complaint in the medical record.

Clinician:

- Reviews prescription concerns with the patient to identify causes.
- Considers whether the medication is still necessary and, if not, whether a deprescribing trial is feasible.
- Considers extended prescriptions.
- Considers lower-cost alternatives, discount programs, and cost-saving websites and apps.
- Refers the patient as needed to office staff or community-based organizations to assist with insurance concerns, including eligibility for low-income subsidies.

References:

<https://annals.org/aim/fullarticle/2732819/%5BXSLTImagePath%5D>

<https://www.acponline.org/clinical-information/high-value-care/resources-for-clinicians/cost-of-care-conversations>



Engaging patients in medication cost conversations

Step Two:

Use/suggest brief cost-reducing strategies during visits.

Step Three:

Refer patients who need more assistance to care managers or social workers who may have more expertise in these areas or create a clinic champion to fulfill this role.

References:

<https://annals.org/aim/fullarticle/2732819/%5BXSLTImagePath%5D>

<https://www.acponline.org/clinical-information/high-value-care/resources-for-clinicians/cost-of-care-conversations>

Medication Cost Savings Strategies

	Time involved	Cost savings	Resources
Deprescribing	+	+++	https://deprescribing.org/news/d-prescribe-trial-harnessing-the-power-of-the-physician-pharmacist-and-patient-triad/
90-day prescribing	+	+	https://info.caremark.com/90day https://www.walgreens.com/pharmacy/psc/psc_overview_page.jsp
Substitution of less costly medication within/outside of class	++	+++	http://online.epocrates.com
Substitution of medication within health plan tier	++	++	http://www.formularylookup.com
Discount programs	++	++	Walmart: https://www.walmart.com/cp/4-dollar-prescriptions/1078664 Sam's Club: https://www.samsclub.com/sams/pagedetails/content.jsp?pageName=extra-value-drug-list ; Walgreens: https://www.walgreens.com/images/adaptive/pdf/psc/PSCBrochure-English-20180628.pdf ; CVS: https://www.reducedrx.com Rite Aid: https://www.riteaid.com/shop/info/pharmacy/prescription-savings/rite-aid-prescription-savings-program/directory-of-generic-medications Winn-Dixie: https://www.winndixie.com/pharmacy/generics-list HEB: http://images.heb.com/is/content/HEBGrocery/PDF/Pharmacy/4-Generics-0917.pdf Publix: http://www.publix.com/pharmacy-wellness/pharmacy/pharmacy-services/medication-supply
Pharmacy shopping and coupons	++	++	https://www.goodrx.com
Enroll in insurance	+++	++++	https://www.healthcare.gov
Change Medicare Part-D plans	+++	++	https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx
Medicare extra help	+++	+++	https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/prescriptionhelp
NYS Medicare EPIC	+++	+++	https://www.medicareinteractive.org/get-answers/cost-saving-programs-for-people-with-medicare/epic-the-new-york-elderly-pharmaceutical-insurance-coverage-program/how-epic-works-with-medicare-low-income-programs
Free medication programs	+++	+++	https://www.needymeds.org https://rxoutreach.org/ Publix: http://www.publix.com/pharmacy-wellness/pharmacy/pharmacy-services/free-medication-program
Medicaid spend downs	++++	+++	https://www.medicaidplanningassistance.org/medicaid-spend-down

+= Low ++= Medium +++= High ++++= Extremely high



Insulin-Access Resources

- [AADE Insulin Cost-Savings Resource Guide](#)
- Examples of manufacturer assistance programs:
 - [Lilly Cares Program](#)
Eli Lilly (Basaglar, Humalog, Humulin)
 - [Sanofi Patient Assistance Connection](#)
Sanofi (Lantus, Toujeo, Admelog)
 - [NovoCare](#)
Novo Nordisk (Levemir, Tresiba, Novolog, Novolin)



Retail Pharmacy Savings Plans

Retail Pharmacy	Program
Walmart	<u>\$4 Medication List</u>
Walgreens	<u>Prescription Savings Club</u> <u>Value Priced Medication List</u>
Rite Aid	<u>Prescription Savings Program</u>
Target	<u>\$4 and \$10 Medication List</u>
URMC Pharmacies	Call (585) 275-4931 to obtain updated prescription savings information

Resource	Benefits	Eligibility and Other Information
NYS EPIC (Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supplements Medicare Part D out-of-pocket drug plan costs• Secondary coverage after deductible is met	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website• (800) 332-3742
Extra Help (Low Income Extra Subsidy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members who qualify under Part D plan can receive help to pay for monthly premiums, annual deductibles and Part D copayments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website• (800) 772-1213• Local Social Security office
PAN Foundation (Patient Access Network)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for medication deductibles, copays for chronic diseases (see website for diseases accepting new patients)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website• (866) 316-7263



Other Resources

Resource	Benefits	Eligibility and Other Information
The Assistance Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copay assistance for medications for certain diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website• (855) 845-3663
The Good Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for copays for medication related to specific chronic diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website• (877) 968-7233
The HealthWell Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for copays for medication related to specific diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website• 1-800-675-8416

Additional Organizations that offer support:

- [Partnership for Prescription Assistance](#)
- [Patient Advocate Foundation](#)
- [RxAssist](#)
- [Patient Services Inc.](#)
- [CancerCare Co-payment Assistance Foundation](#)



Resource for patients

[Consumer Reports Best Buy Drugs](#)

- Highlights drugs that are considered to be of best value for specific disease states and provides other cost-savings tips from a consumer perspective.



[Product Reviews](#) [News](#) [Take Action](#) [About Us](#)

Best Buy Drugs A-Z

Find Health Information

Showing All Best Buy Drugs (674)

Generic names are indicated with **bold**.

Narrow Results by

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z