



# Cost Containment Options

With new, effective (and costly) medications continually becoming available, ensuring an organization's drug spend is deployed effectively is essential.

These tools provide plans with maximum savings without impacting member health, and also allow greater ability to provide coverage for other emerging treatments.

## Pharmacy Partners – Preferred Network

Leveraging our strong pharmacy and client relationships, our retail Pharmacy Partners – Preferred Network option ensures value for the plan sponsor and plan member by: optimizing plan performance; improving health outcomes for members; and delivering plan savings.

Plan sponsors can choose between a member (Option #1) or plan (Option #2) savings model. Depending on your current drug benefit plan design, and which option you choose, plan sponsors could see savings up to 13% off drug spend by implementing this product offering. Preferred pharmacy networks are not permitted in Quebec.

## Mandatory Generic Drug Substitution

By using generic drugs when available, members can reduce out-of-pocket costs, including copays and insurance premiums, while also protecting the sustainability of their plan. Sixty five per cent of all brand name drugs having a generic drug equivalent.

Under our Mandatory Generic Substitution provision, even if the member submits a prescription with a physician “No substitution” at the pharmacy, the plan will only reimburse up to the lowest interchangeable price, and if the member chooses to have the brand drug dispensed, they are responsible for the ingredient cost differential.

For the very small percentage of members that may have an adverse reaction or a therapeutic failure to a generic drug, our Exception Process allows members with a proven need for the brand drug to be reimbursed at the drug's full price.

## Maximum Allowable Cost

While the focus of Mandatory Generic Substitution (MGS) is on the brand drug and its interchangeable generic drug, Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) focuses on all the drugs within the certain therapeutic category.

When a plan sponsor chooses MAC, the dispensed drug only reimburses to the ingredient cost of the lowest option in the category. If the member does not choose this drug, they are responsible for the additional cost of the drug they have chosen.

To help promote a positive member experience with MAC, we recommend pairing it with Pharmacy Partners – Preferred Network. Pharmacists in our network are educated about our offering and can coordinate a prescription change (therapeutic substitution) at the pharmacy counter.

