

Employee Benefits Advisor

Helping you get the most from your benefit plans.

IBC to End Waiver of Generic Drug Copay

November 2007

IBC's "No Pay Copay" promotion – the program that has allowed IBC members to fill prescriptions for generic drugs at no cost throughout 2007 – will expire at the end of the year. Effective January 1, 2008, if you use your IBC prescription benefit to fill a prescription for a generic medication at a retail pharmacy, you will once again be responsible for paying your generic copay.

If you fill generic drug prescriptions regularly and have been taking advantage of the no copay promotion, here are some options available to you that could help to minimize the cost of your drug therapy in 2008:

Take advantage of one of the retail store discount generic prescription drug programs.

Last year, a variety of popular retail stores introduced discount drug programs that enable any consumer to fill generic drug prescriptions at in-store pharmacies for a minimal amount. If your IBC prescription plan's generic copay amount is greater than \$4, one or more of these plans could benefit you. Not all generic medications are available at discounted rates through these programs, so you should view each program's drug list to see if yours is covered before budgeting to fill your prescriptions according to the amounts noted below.



- ◆ Both **Wal-Mart** and **Target** have a list of generic drugs that are available at their in-store pharmacies at \$4 for a 30-day supply. Through these promotions, you can fill your prescriptions in as many 30-day increments as your doctor prescribes. For instance, if you receive a 90-day prescription, Target or Wal-Mart will fill the prescription as three 30-day supplies and charge you a total of \$12. These stores will also save prescription data and automatically honor refills as prescribed by your physician.

Wal-Mart's list of more than 360 prescriptions can be accessed at their website: <http://i.walmart.com/i/iff/hmp/fusion/genericdruglist.pdf>.

Target's list of more than 300 covered generic medications may also be found online at:

http://sites.target.com/images/pharmacy/4DollarAlpha100207F.pdf?ref=sc_iw_r_1_0_1Alpha.

- ◆ Generic drugs are offered at **Kmart** at \$15 for a 90-day supply. No 30-day supplies are currently available at Kmart, though this retailer's pharmacy will store your prescription data and honor as many as three refills per year as prescribed by your doctor. Kmart's complete drug list can be accessed at: http://www.kmart.com/ue/home/90DayGen_FormularyJuly2007.pdf.
- ◆ **Wegmans**, a grocery store chain, most recently began a generic drug discount program offering a 90-day supply for \$11.99. Similar to Kmart's program, only 90-day prescriptions can be filled, but refills will be honored. Their full drug list is located at: <http://www.wegmans.com/pdf/wegmans90DayGeneric.pdf>

Take advantage of your 90-day mail order program through IBC's mail order vendor, Caremark.

Anyone who is taking maintenance drugs for a chronic condition or the same medications on an ongoing basis should consider the benefits of Caremark's home delivery pharmacy program. When you fill a 90-day prescription for a generic drug through the mail-order program, you pay two times the generic copay but receive a three-month supply directly through the mail. This means that you receive a 30-day supply for free.

To get started with IBC's home delivery program, you can either log on to www.ibxpress.com, or call the toll-free customer service line for IBC's pharmacy benefits manager at 888-678-7012. You can reach Caremark by choosing option #1 when prompted. By ordering your medications through this program, you will experience savings in both time and money.

If you have any questions about this topic please contact your RSI Benefit Service Specialist at 1-800-394-6111.

