

THE CHALLENGE:

As drug utilization and costs continue to grow, the sustainability of private drug plans is increasingly challenged. As well, plan members with multiple chronic conditions continue to struggle with poor medication adherence.

THE SOLUTION:

 **POCKETPILLS**

A digital pharmacy that offers savings for your drug benefit plan, along with customized medication management for your plan members.



ABOUT POCKETPILLS

By choosing PocketPills as your preferred pharmacy provider, not only will your overall drug plan costs be reduced, but also your plan members' experience and medication adherence will improve.

Savings for your drug plan – Unlike many storefront pharmacies, PocketPills offers a low dispensing fee of just \$7 and lower pharmacy markup. A markup is the amount charged by pharmacies for the acquisition and handling of the drug product.

The right medication, at the right time – Every patient's medications, vitamins, and supplements are pre-sorted and packaged by date and time, and then placed into PocketPacks medication strips. This ensures that your plan members are using the right medication at the right time, which helps them manage their conditions better. PocketPacks are also highly transportable as plan members can tear off the number of packaged doses needed from the medication strip, and take them wherever they go.

Free delivery – PocketPills delivers PocketPacks free of charge directly to your plan members across Canada. At the moment, PocketPills is unavailable in Quebec, but is expected to launch in Q3 of 2020.

Chat with a pharmacist – If your plan members have questions, PocketPills can help with convenient access to a pharmacist via live chat, SMS, email, and phone.

Caregiver function – Plan members can add other people, such as aging parents, to their profile through the caregiver function allowing them to help manage their family member's medication, monitor delivery, and ask PocketPills pharmacists questions on the family member's behalf.

Automatic prescription transfers and refill management – Plan members new to PocketPills can easily find their current pharmacy in the search function of the PocketPills mobile app or website to transfer their prescriptions. From there, PocketPills automatically manages refills by contacting physicians. Plan members are notified by text that the refill PocketPack will be arriving a few days before their current pack runs out. From time to time, PocketPills proactively informs plan members that they need to see their physician to renew a prescription.

FLEXIBLE OPTIONS

Select PocketPills for both maintenance and acute medications **or** maintenance medications only. PocketPills offers three flexible packages each with unique plan design features.

	Voluntary Plan	Incentivized Plan	Mandatory Exclusive Plan
Dispensing fee & markup	\$7 Standard pharmacy markup	\$7 Lower pharmacy markup (compared to a typical community pharmacy)	
Plan design features	No changes to drug plan design Minimum savings for your plan if there is low enrolment	Higher coinsurance if PocketPills is used Lower coinsurance if any other pharmacy is used	All eligible maintenance medications are covered through PocketPills No coverage of maintenance medications if any other pharmacy is used Note: Non-maintenance medications will be covered at PocketPills and at other pharmacies
Advantages	Some savings on drug costs compared with other pharmacies Absolute plan member choice No requirement for plan members to switch pharmacies	Moderate savings Provides plan member choice of pharmacy but encourages the use of PocketPills as the preferred option	Maximum savings Plan members continue to have choice of pharmacy for non-maintenance medications

IMPROVE YOUR PLAN MEMBERS' HEALTH

People with chronic conditions – diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol – often have difficulty being adherent to their medication regime. Research shows that services such as PocketPills can improve levels of adherence. Compared to patients who used their local pharmacy, those who received their refills by mail:

- Were more likely to be adherent to their medications for chronic conditions¹
- Had 16 per cent fewer visits to the emergency department²

Adherent plan members take the right drugs in the right prescribed dosages at the right time and for the right length of time.

PHARMACY JUST GOT EASIER!

Offering significant cost savings and high-quality services, PocketPills combines the advantages of a full-service pharmacy with the convenience of a mail-order pharmacy. With the escalating cost of prescription drugs being the highest expense in a health benefits plan, PocketPills is an innovative option to help you achieve drug plan sustainability.

Sources:

¹Kenrik et al; Mail Order Pharmacy Use and Adherence to Diabetes-Related Medications; Am J Manag Care Jan 2010, 16(1): 33-40 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3015238/>.

²Julie A. Schmittiel et al; The Safety and Effectiveness of Mail Order Pharmacy Use in Diabetes Patients; Am J Manag Care; 2014 Dec 29 <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4278640/>.

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