



Health Insurance Risk Sharing Plan
 1751 W. Broadway – P.O. Box 8961 – Madison, WI 53708-8961
 (800) 828-4777 or (608) 221-4551

Important Information About Your Drug Costs

Using WALGREENS’ pharmacies may increase your out-of-pocket expenses

The HIRSP Authority would like to alert policyholders that you may be paying more at **Walgreens** pharmacies than at other pharmacies to have your prescriptions filled. **Walgreens** pharmacies do not allow you to receive the full discount that other pharmacies have agreed to provide to HIRSP policyholder.

To date, **Walgreens** pharmacies have not agreed to charge you the lower of the HIRSP discounted drug cost or the HIRSP co-payment amount. For example, if the drug cost for a generic antibiotic is \$4.25 and the HIRSP dispensing fee is \$2.50, the cost to you for the antibiotic should be \$6.75. However, **Walgreens** will charge you the full \$10 co-pay for this prescription. All other pharmacies in the HIRSP network will only charge you \$6.75.

We have provided another example below to illustrate how drugs are priced. In both examples, the retail cost of the medication (what the pharmacy normally charges) is \$11.00, but the discounted HIRSP price is only \$6.00. All pharmacies also charge a fee to dispense medications. For HIRSP, this dispensing fee is \$2.50. As you can see by the examples below, you should only be paying the pharmacy \$8.50 for this medication, but **Walgreens** will charge you the full \$10.00 HIRSP co-payment. The difference of \$1.50 is retained by **Walgreens**.

What you pay at Walgreens	What you pay at all other pharmacies
HIRSP Discounted Drug Cost: \$6.00	HIRSP Discounted Drug Cost: \$6.00
HIRSP Dispensing Fee: \$2.50	HIRSP Dispensing Fee: \$2.50
Pharmacy Retail Drug Cost: \$11.00	Pharmacy Retail Drug Cost: \$11.00
HIRSP Co-payment Amount: \$10.00	HIRSP Co-payment Amount: \$10.00
Amount you will pay: \$10.00	Amount you will pay: \$8.50 (\$6.00+\$2.50)

In an effort to help you make informed decisions about your healthcare and help you lower your out-of-pocket expenses, we felt it important to inform you that **Walgreens** does not pass on the full discounted drug cost to you. Based on current HIRSP policyholder utilization at **Walgreens** pharmacies, we estimate that this policy is costing HIRSP policyholders approximately \$300,000 annually in additional out-of-pocket costs.

Please contact the HIRSP Pharmacy Dedicated Unit at 1-866-370-3877 if you have any questions about your pharmacy or your prescription drug benefits. Also, you can ask if there are lower cost alternatives available for your current medications, or find out if your medication is eligible for tablet splitting. Information about your drug formulary, cost saving programs, and other important information about your HIRSP Policy is available 24 hours a day at www.hirsp.org.