

5 Reasons Pharmacy Costs Can't Be Ignored

These 5 stats show why employers and employees need practical tools to control prescription costs.

1 Medical and drug inflation are increasing exponentially For 15+ years medical inflation has grown at 2x the rate of national inflation, and Rx is double that rate.¹



3%



6%



12%

2 Employers rate drug costs as top concern 63% of employers said specialty pharmacy management was a top priority.²



Eight in ten large employers ranked specialty pharmacy among the top three cost drivers.³

3 Specialty drug costs are skyrocketing

As of 2018, HALF of national drug spend will be specialty medications.⁴

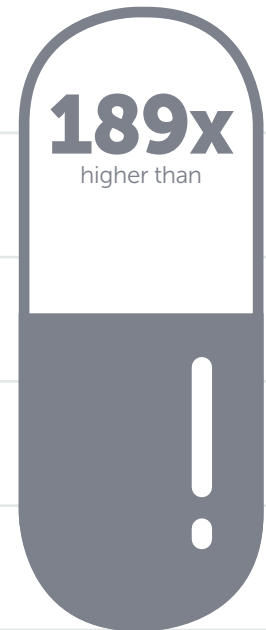
AVERAGE PRICE OF SPECIALTY DRUGS...

18x
higher than



Brand Name

189x
higher than



Generic Drugs

4 Formularies are shrinking while non-covered Rx lists are growing

At the end of 2017, over **80 prescriptions** were removed from formularies, impacting over 200 million Americans.⁶

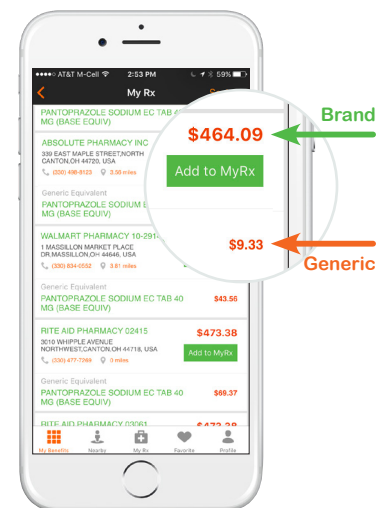


5 Drug spend is pushed to out of pocket costs 77% of Americans say prescription drug costs are unreasonable.⁷

Fact: Changes to Rx coverage shift major costs to employees.

Strategy: A second pharmacy benefit alongside the health plan creates a “safety net” that works for all groups and plans.

Consumerism: Price comparison tools educate employees as healthcare consumers while giving them options.



freshbenies®
A FRESH APPROACH TO BENEFITS

1. www.milliman.com/insight/Periodicals/mmi/2017-Milliman-Medical-Index/
2. www.mbgh.org/blogs/mbgh-information/2016/12/09/managing-specialty-drugs-and-employee-engagement-are-of-greatest-concern-to-employers-in-2017
3. www.businessgrouphealth.org/news/nbgh-news/press-releases/press-release-details/?ID=334
4. https://www.shrm.org/resourcesandtools/hr-topics/benefits/pages/care-management-specialty-pharmacy-costs.aspx

5. www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/2015/rx-price-watch-specialty-prescription-drug-prices-continue-to-climb-final.pdf
6. www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2016/08/15/489790412/will-your-prescription-meds-be-covered-next-year-better-check
7. Kaiser Family Foundation survey, Sept 2016