

# PHARMACY FACTS

## Program Updates from Louisiana Medicaid

*November 9, 2018*

### **Medicaid, stakeholders meet to discuss single preferred drug list development**

Medicaid participated in numerous stakeholder meetings this past week, all focused on gathering feedback for the further development of a single preferred drug list (PDL) for all Medicaid members, both Fee for Service and Managed Care Organization enrollees.

At the invitation of Rep. Dustin Miller, on November 5, Medicaid management met with local pharmacists and members of Louisiana Wholesale Drug in Sunset, La. The conversation centered on independent pharmacy concerns, including but not limited to the single PDL.

“Our discussions were very productive, providing our staff with a deeper understanding of specific areas of concern for independent pharmacists,” Jen Steele, Medicaid director, said. “We greatly appreciate the opportunity to hear first-hand from those that would be most directly impacted, and are confident that together we can reach agreement on beneficial solutions to improve the experience of Medicaid providers and the health of Medicaid members.”

On November 7, Medicaid staff joined a large group of diverse stakeholders at the Louisiana State Capitol for a presentation and open discussion on the single PDL. Attendees included independent pharmacists, chain pharmacy representatives, Louisiana drug wholesalers, hospital representatives, Louisiana Medicaid managed care organizations, physicians and other primary care providers, Governor’s office staff, and state legislators. Steele noted that the meeting yielded valuable input for the department, including greater insight into key issues, such as ingredient cost reimbursement and dispensing fee concerns. Information shared by Medicaid during the meeting can be found [here](#).

Medicaid hosted a third stakeholder forum on November 8, via conference call. This after-hours meeting provided a recap of the week’s events. Invitees included federally qualified health centers, rural health centers, and other primary care providers.

Next week, Medicaid staff will meet with LIPA and Louisiana Wholesale Drugs boards to continue the conversation around the single PDL. Additional meetings will be shared in subsequent issues of Pharmacy Facts as dates are finalized.