

**151.71 MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE COST PRICING.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply.

(b) "Health plan company" has the meaning provided in section 62Q.01, subdivision 4.

(c) "Pharmacy benefit manager" means an entity doing business in this state that contracts to administer or manage prescription drug benefits on behalf of any health plan company that provides prescription drug benefits to residents of this state.

Subd. 2. **Pharmacy benefit manager contracts with pharmacies; maximum allowable cost pricing.** (a) In each contract between a pharmacy benefit manager and a pharmacy, the pharmacy shall be given the right to obtain from the pharmacy benefit manager a current list of the sources used to determine maximum allowable cost pricing. The pharmacy benefit manager shall update the pricing information at least every seven business days and provide a means by which contracted pharmacies may promptly review current prices in an electronic, print, or telephonic format within one business day at no cost to the pharmacy. A pharmacy benefit manager shall maintain a procedure to eliminate products from the list of drugs subject to maximum allowable cost pricing in a timely manner in order to remain consistent with changes in the marketplace.

(b) In order to place a prescription drug on a maximum allowable cost list, a pharmacy benefit manager shall ensure that the drug is generally available for purchase by pharmacies in this state from a national or regional wholesaler and is not obsolete.

(c) Each contract between a pharmacy benefit manager and a pharmacy must include a process to appeal, investigate, and resolve disputes regarding maximum allowable cost pricing that includes:

(1) a 15-business day limit on the right to appeal following the initial claim;

(2) a requirement that the appeal be investigated and resolved within seven business days after the appeal is received; and

(3) a requirement that a pharmacy benefit manager provide a reason for any appeal denial and identify the national drug code of a drug that may be purchased by the pharmacy at a price at or below the maximum allowable cost price as determined by the pharmacy benefit manager.

(d) If an appeal is upheld, the pharmacy benefit manager shall make an adjustment to the maximum allowable cost price no later than one business day after the date of determination. The pharmacy benefit manager shall make the price adjustment applicable to all similarly situated network pharmacy providers as defined by the plan sponsor.

**History:** 2014 c 291 art 2 s 2