Plan Finder Prescription Drug Tips

Below are some tips to guide you when helping people with Medicare look up their drug costs and to find the most accurate prices.

Ask questions to make sure you’re capturing prescription information correctly in the Medicare Plan Finder. Some examples include:

- “Do you take the brand name or generic?”
- “Is this drug a capsule or tablet?”
- “Is it extended release?”

Always confirm drug names, dosages, quantities, the form (such as a capsule or a tablet), frequency, and pharmacy or mail order.

- Some prescription drugs have a variety of forms that plans may cover differently.
- When selecting the dosage, pay attention to the form of the drug generally listed next to the dose, and if there are multiple forms listed, select the appropriate form option from the drop-down list.

Example: There’s a commonly prescribed drug with the brand name Synthroid and generic Levothyroxine sodium that comes in both tablet and capsule forms. The cost varies depending on the form so you need to choose the right one in Plan Finder to get the most accurate drug cost estimate.

If a drug is showing a high cost and the person with Medicare says it shouldn’t be that high, review the “Plan Details” on the Medicare Plan Finder and the “What You’ll Pay” section to see if all the drugs are covered by the plan.

- If they aren’t covered, ask questions to determine if the person may qualify for Extra Help, a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP), or Pharmacy Assistance Program (PAP) to help with drug costs.
- Whether the drug is covered or not covered, review the drug information entered and make sure the information is correct.