



CarePartners MedAccess

Because everyone needs their medicines



MedAccess

- Comprehensive Medication Assistance Program implemented by MaineHealth in April 2005
 - Assists individuals in the community with PAPs, \$4 Generic Programs, Medicare Part D and state and local prescription discount programs



PAPs: Patient Assistance Programs

- Patient assistance programs, commonly called PAPs, provide free or low-cost medicine to people with low-incomes who are uninsured or under-insured.
- Medications are provided directly from the drug companies
- Eligibility:
 - No prescription insurance
 - Income guidelines (vary by company)
 - Long term medications



Local Affordable Generics

- Wal-Mart, Target, and Others
 - \$4 for a 30-day supply
 - Limited number of medications
 - Quantity limitations
 - No income limitation
- *Hannaford Healthy Saver Program*
 - \$7 annual fee
 - FREE antibiotics
 - \$4 for 30-day supply of over 450 generics
 - \$9.99 for 90-day supply
 - Discounts on vision & hearing care
- *CVS Health Savings Pass Card*
 - \$10 annual fee
 - \$9.99 for a 90-day supply of over 400 generic prescriptions



Finding Local Affordable Generics

- www.medtipster.com
 - Search engine for finding discounted drugs at pharmacies and drug stores.
 - It is important to note that MedTipster does not have retail pricing of all drugs, only those that are discounted. They attempt to include discount prices from all pharmacies and drug stores.
 - Search by zipcode for prices in your area
 - Medtipster does not sell medication



The GPM Project

- Generics are Powerful Medicine (GPM), is a program of Community Catalyst and the Alosa Foundation. GPM awarded grants to eleven nonprofit organizations to educate consumers about the value, safety and effectiveness of generic prescription drugs.
- www.genericsarepowerful.org

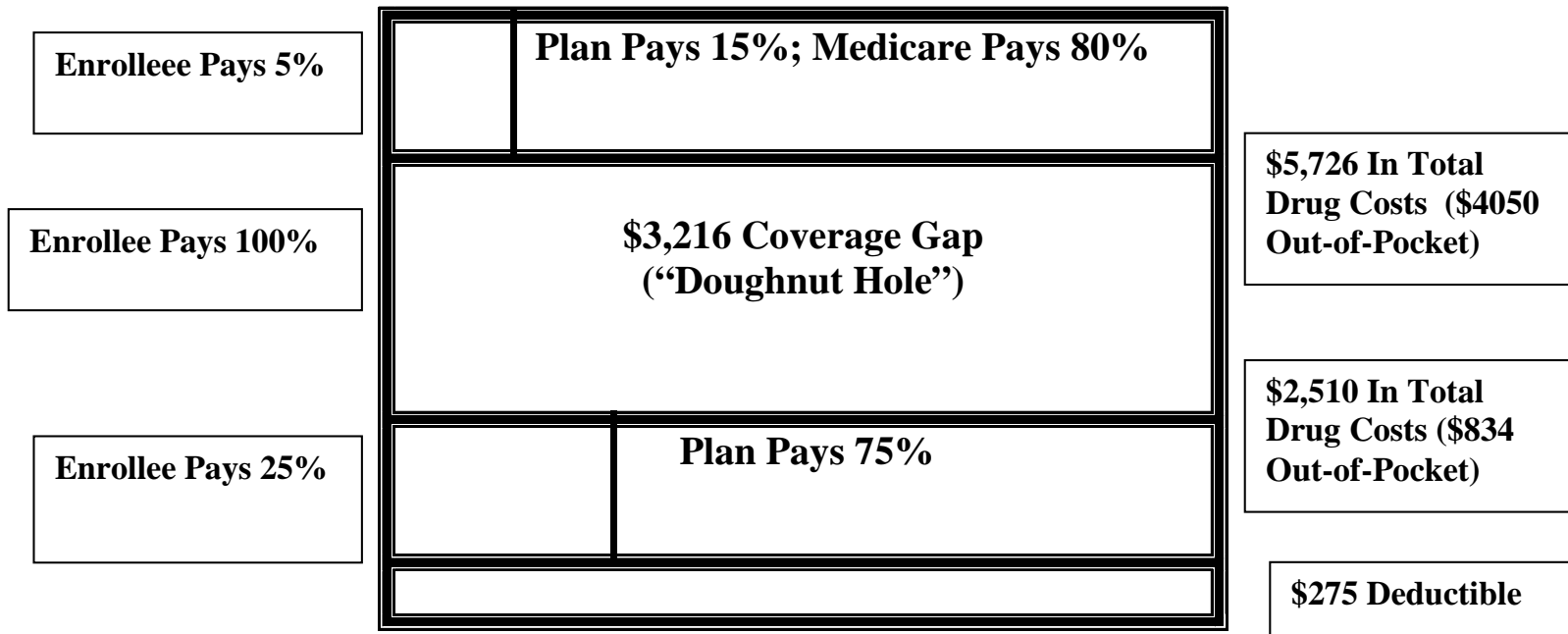


The GPM Message

- Generic drugs are a vital tool for consumers to save money on their prescription medications.
- Generic drugs use the same active ingredient(s) as brand-name drugs and are approved by the FDA.
- Generic drugs are as safe as the brand-name equivalent, yet much less expensive (often only 20-30% of the brand-name price).
- 65% of prescriptions in the US in 2007 were filled with generics, yet they accounted for only 20% of spending on prescription drugs.



Medicare Part D



Donut Hole

- Half of those who reach the coverage gap, also called the “Donut Hole,” do so by the end of August
- On average, enrollees who reach it remain in the gap for just over 4 months
- Very few enrollees who reach the gap in July or later reach catastrophic coverage level before the end of the year

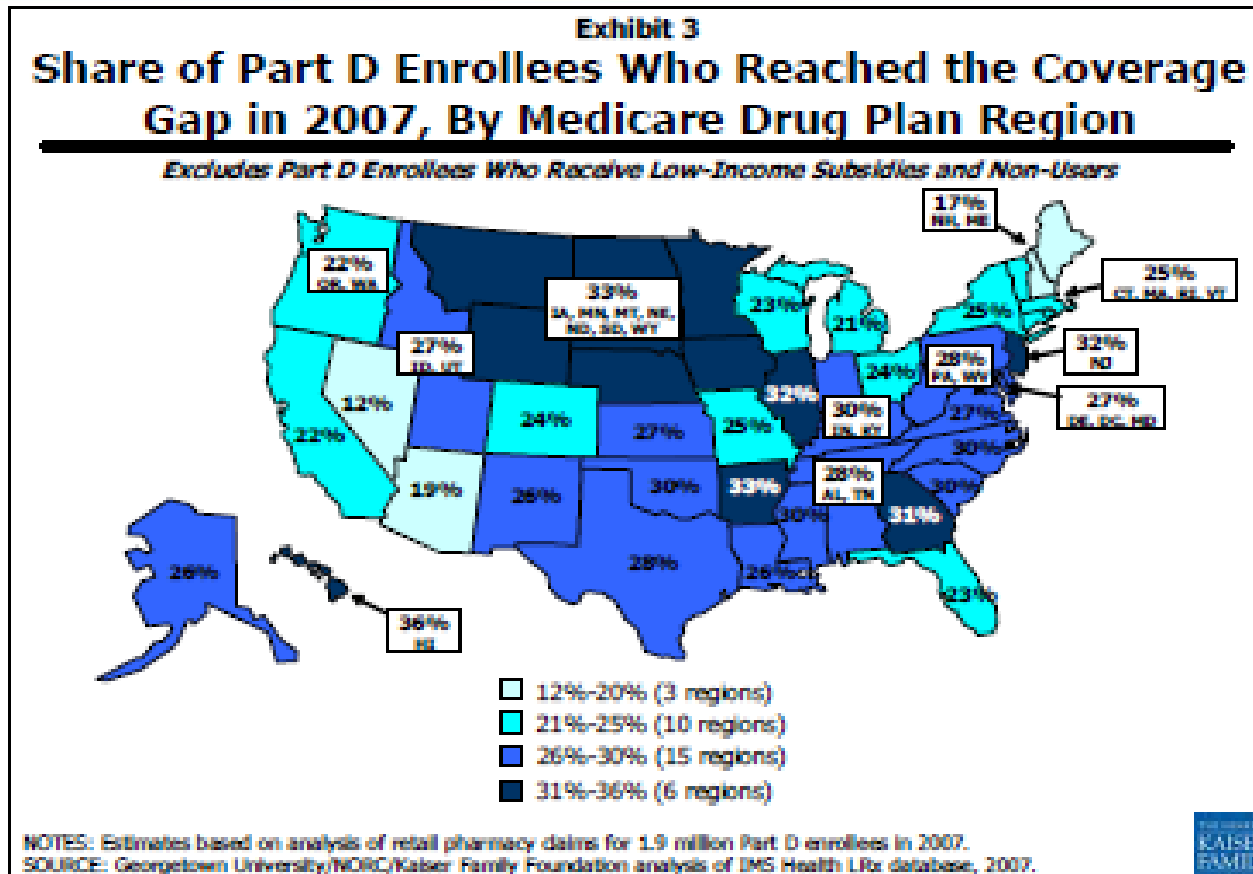


Kaiser Family Foundation Study of 2007

- Results of study
 - 22% of Enrollees Will Reach “Doughnut Hole” But Not Catastrophic Coverage
 - The Older You Are, the More Likely You Are to Reach the Coverage Gap
 - About 17% of Maine Enrollees Reach “Doughnut Hole”*



***About 17% of Maine Enrollees Reach “Doughnut Hole”**



What do we do to help?

- Identify appropriate PAPs that will help enrollees caught in the “donut hole” and help them enroll in these programs.
- Identify alternative medications for consideration by prescriber
- Identify less expensive sources
- Educate enrollees about ‘total drug costs’ and out-of-pocket expenses of their Medicare Part D plan
- Help enrollees **plan**, in order to avoid “doughnut hole” for next year



A Real Life Example: Saving \$1,129.00

- MedAccess client reaches “donut hole” at end of August 2008
 - For first eight months had co-pays of \$30 for Arimidex and \$7 for Alendronate (Fosamax)
 - For last four months will pay full cost of each drug: \$279.22 for Arimidex and \$37.24 for Alendronate. (\$316.46 per month)
 - MedAccess found Arimidex for \$25 per month in AstraZeneca Patient Assistance Program for Part D participants and Alendronate for \$9.95 per month in Hannaford’s Healthy Saver Program. (\$34.24 per month)



Prescription Class

- Generics are Powerful Medicine (GPM) Materials
- Patient Assistance Program (PAP) information
- Medicare Part D—donut hole help
- Other Services
 - We provide information about useful community services and programs, such as our MedAccess Program.



Accomplishments

- MedAccess staff assist providers with PAPs for their patients
 - 3875+ referrals
 - Over 2700 of those referrals directly from medical providers
 - Over 2500 individuals assisted with PAPs
 - 6,653 PAPs completed through 8/2009
 - \$6.59 million medications accessed



Accomplishments

- Completed PAPs for over 2500 patients from all 16 Maine counties (just over 300 don't have county entered)

County	Patients		
		Oxford	42
Androscoggin	24	Penobscot	23
Aroostook	1	Piscataquis	27
Cumberland	1791	Sagadahoc	20
Franklin	5	Somerset	21
Hancock	2	Waldo	7
Kennebec	21	Washington	2
Knox	4	York	259
Lincoln	40	New Hampshire	4



Collaborations

- CarePartners & MedAccess have worked with Franklin Health Access, Maine Health Alliance, Community Health Connections, Maine Coast Hospital and Sacopee Valley Health Center since 2005 to ensure that patients who are not able to access their medications have advocates to help them find ways to get affordable prescriptions



Collaborations cont.

- Through MeHAF's medication assistance grant started in 2006 we have worked with programs throughout the state and continue to work with many of them to utilize the PAP software that we purchased (and MaineHealth will continue to maintain as long as MedAccess exists)
 - Mount Desert Island Hospital
 - Sebecook Family Doctors
 - Penobscot Community Health Centers
 - Maine Coast Memorial Hospital
 - York County Hospital
 - Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems (Center for Family Medicine)
 - Health Reach Community Health Centers



Maine Medical Center Pilot Project

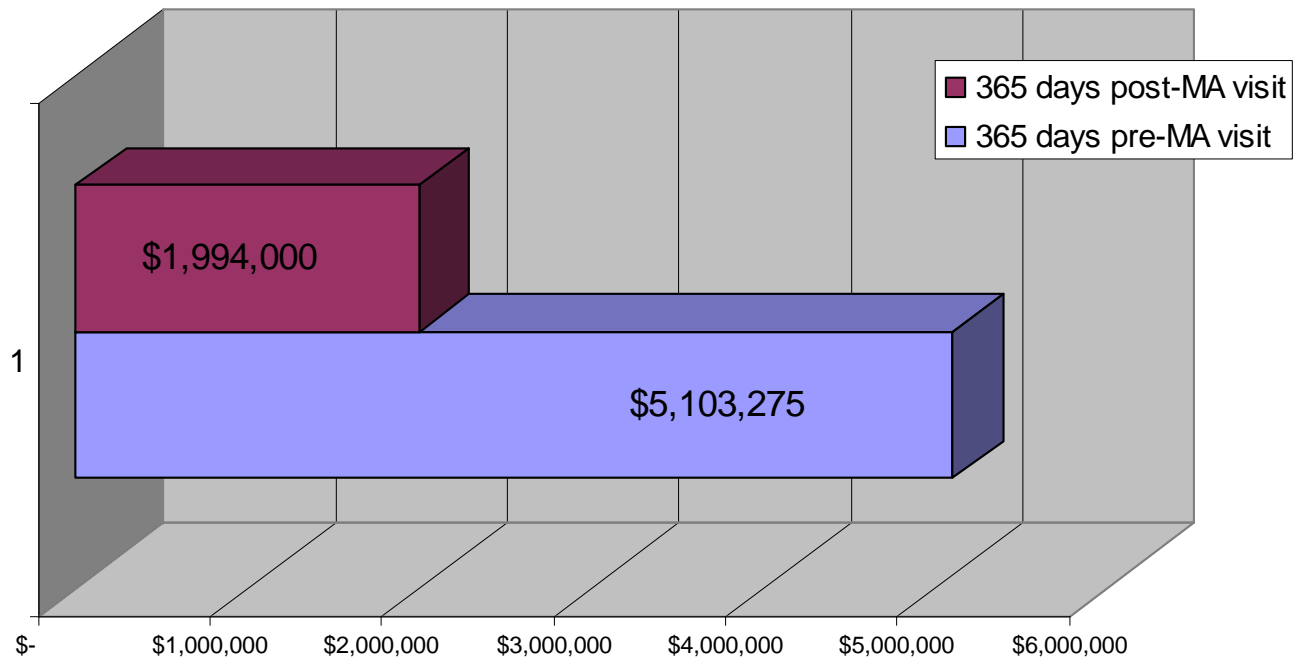
- Nursing department grant allocated funds to hire 1.0 FTE to meet with patients prior to discharge to review affordability of prescribed medications and educate about least expensive options.
- Program implemented in April 2008. Data reveals a 61% decrease in charges compared to one year prior



MMC Inpatient Data April 2008-July 2009

- Hospital charges decreased **61%** one year after MedAccess staff met with patients

Total MMC Charges 365 days Pre- Intervention and 365 days Post- Intervention (N=104)



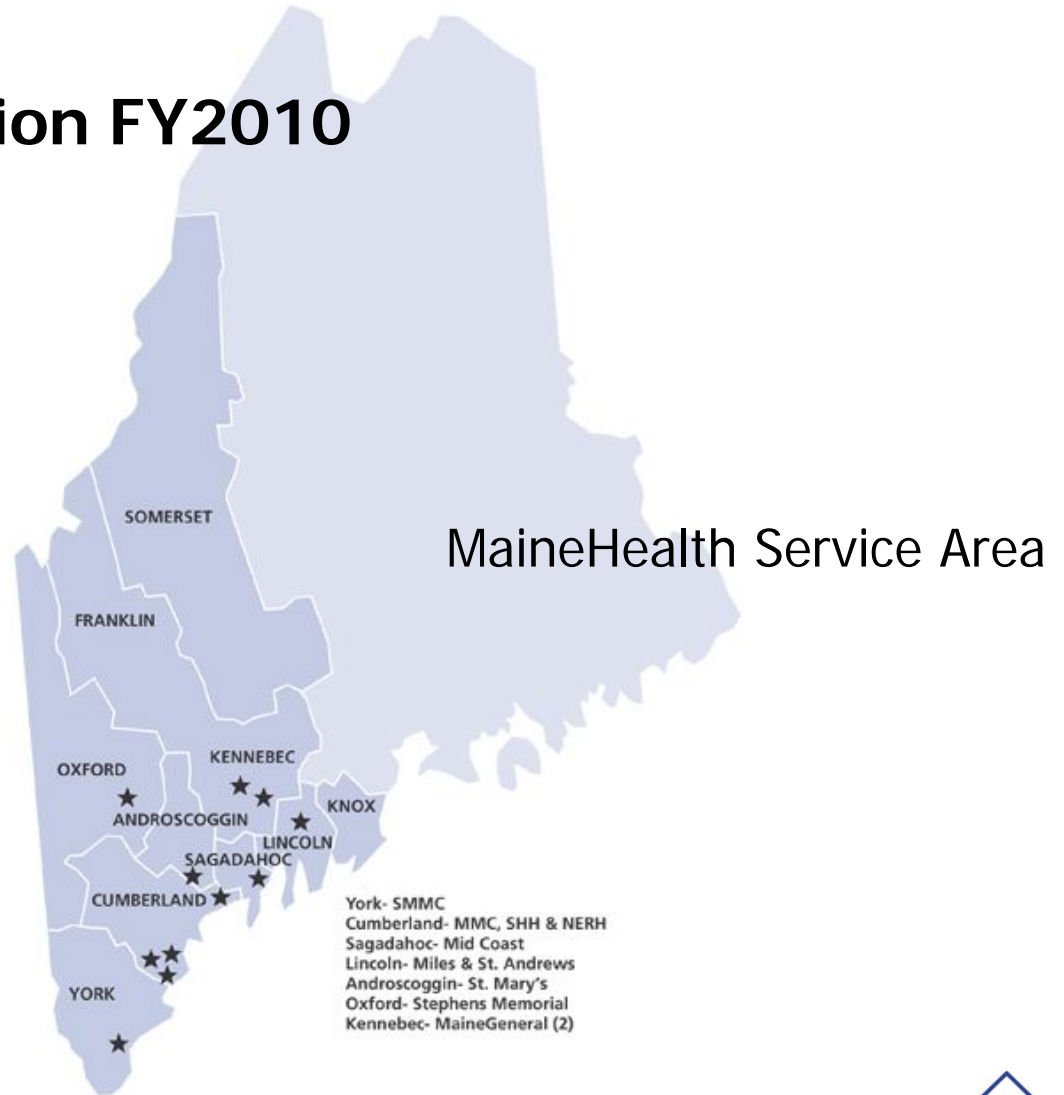
MMC Pilot Project

- Case Finding
 - 100% patients on Units with High Need
 - Cardiothoracic
 - Renal Patients
 - 100% Pts. with no insurance/self pay
 - 100% Pts. admitted from the ED
 - 100% referred by colleagues



MedAccess Expansion FY2010

- York County
 - Southern Maine Medical Center
- Oxford County
 - Stephens Memorial Hospital
- Lincoln County
 - Miles and St Andrews Hospitals
- Waldo County
 - Waldo County General Hospital



Contact MedAccess for Help

MedAccess helps Maine people apply to PAPs

- Our services are FREE
- We take care of all the paperwork involved in the process, from beginning to end.
- We can offer further assistance in finding low cost medications, as well as other local health resources.

Call 1-877-275-1787

(207) 662-7968

www.carepartnersmaine.org



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