



Specialty Tier Reform Update – Week of January 19, 2015

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STATES

District of Columbia

New bill would limit cost-sharing for specialty drugs to \$150 per month

Councilmembers Mary Cheh (D) and Anita Bonds (D) introduced legislation this week that would limit cost-sharing for specialty drugs to \$150 per month for up to a 30-day supply. The bill (B21-0032) also would allow a health plan to request that a non-preferred drug be covered under the cost-sharing for preferred drugs, if the prescribing physician determines that the preferred drug (for the same condition) would not be as effective or would have adverse effects for the individual. According to the bill, non-preferred drugs are specialty drug formulary classifications that are subject to limits on eligibility for coverage or impose higher cost-sharing amounts than preferred specialty drugs.

Oklahoma

New bill would limit specialty tier coinsurance to no more than \$200 per month

Rep. Emily Virgin (D) introduced H.B. 1504 this week, which would limit cost-sharing for certain prescription and specialty drugs to \$100 per month for a 30-day supply or \$200 in aggregate per month. As with similar legislation in other states, the measure allows subscribers to request an exception to the tiered cost-sharing structure and prohibits plans from placing all drugs for a given class on a specialty tier (see Specialty Tier Reform Update for Week of January 12th).

Virginia

Senator introduces companion to specialty tier legislation

Senator Rosalyn Dance (D) introduced S.B. 1394 this week, which is the companion legislation to H.B. 1948 introduced by Delegate Jennifer McClellan (D) (see Specialty Tier Reform Update for Week of January 12th). Both measures would limit cost-sharing obligations for a specialty tier drug to no more than \$100 per month for a 30-day supply, allow subscribers to request an exception to the tiered cost-sharing structure, and prohibit insurers from placing all drugs of the same class within a specialty tier.

Both measures will be heard in their respective committees on Commerce and Labor.