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# Strategies to Optimize Drug Spend

Specialty medications represent one of the fastest-growing expenses for health plans. For payers, the challenge isn't just controlling these escalating costs, but doing so while ensuring members receive the best care. Success requires moving beyond traditional management approaches to embrace all-new data-driven, member-centered strategies. Here are a few ways that health plans can control drug costs while improving patient care.

1

# Expand Clinical Management Programs

Clinical management programs drive incremental value. Through dose optimization and strategic clinical audits, these initiatives don't just maintain quality care—they enhance member outcomes while reducing costs.



# 2

## Strengthen Patient Engagement

Improved medication adherence leads to fewer complications and lower costs. With personalized support and pharmacist check-ins, Walgreens helps patients get on therapy quicker and stay on track once started.

Improving adherence rates by up to

**31%**

for multiple sclerosis patients.<sup>1</sup>



# 3

## Improve care coordination.

Where care happens matters for both costs and outcomes. Connected platforms linking providers, pharmacies, and patients reduce care gaps and help deliver treatments in the right setting. This coordination cuts errors and improves results at a lower cost.



# 4

## Leverage Data & Insights

Better data leads to smarter decisions and lower costs. Walgreens data solutions enable quick action with real-time access to spend and trend, clinical partnership to recommend interventions and visibility into your pipeline and potential spend impact.



# 5

## Maximize Financial Assistance

A partner who can help identify and secure alternative funding sources ensures patients receive necessary medications while reducing costs for both members and plans. In 2024, Walgreens was able to help connect eligible patients with over \$536M financial assistance.<sup>2</sup>

Over  
**\$536M**  
in financial assistance.<sup>2</sup>

# Together, we can solve healthcare's toughest problems.

Let's work together to lower your medication costs while keeping your members' unique needs front and center.



Contact us at  
[connect@walgreens.com](mailto:connect@walgreens.com)  
to schedule a meeting



Explore payer solutions at  
[www.walgreenspecialtyrx.com/payers](http://www.walgreenspecialtyrx.com/payers)

<sup>1</sup> Among patients in our Connected Care multiple sclerosis program. DuChane J et al. *Int J MS Care*. 2015;17(2):57-64.

<sup>2</sup> Walgreens internal data

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