8712 Rx Report

Updated 08/06/18

# Purpose

Chapter 406, S.P. 484, L.D. 1406, Title 22, Section 8712, Subsection 5 of the Maine Statutes requires MHDO to produce three health data reports with information about prescription drugs in addition to the publication of [www.comparemaine.org](http://www.comparemaine.org). The requirements of each report are described below:

*A. The 25 most frequently prescribed drugs in the State;*

*B. The 25 costliest drugs as determined by the total amount spent on those drugs in*

*the State; and*

*C. The 25 drugs with the highest year-over-year cost increases as determined by the total amount spent on those drugs in the State.*

The above language can be found in the statute at the following URL: http://legislature.maine.gov/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0484&item=5&snum=128.

# Proposed Methodology

The 8712 report tables will include a count of how frequently a particular medication was prescribed during the time frame and the total amount spent on those drugs. These tables will be based on Maine APCD data, Pharmacy Claims only. The reporting time period will represent 12 months of data and will consist of the most recent available data, as reflected in the release timeline and the proposed work plan. Additionally, data from the previous 12 months will be analyzed in order to produce year-over-year cost increase measures.

The output described above will be presented in three separate Tableau dashboards and made available publicly on the MHDO website. On the website, there will be a drop-down menu available for the user to view data each payer type: commercial, MaineCare, and Medicare. Additionally, a report will be produced in .pdf format, and will include the output available in Tableau, as well as a written summary of the results.

A complete list of the proposed tables and some example table shells to be included in Tableau dashboards and the written report are provided at the end of this document. These tables will be produced for each payer type: commercial, MaineCare, and Medicare. Overall versions of these tables—across all payer types—will not be available, due to the lag in availability for Medicare data.

As part of the development of this report, as proposed in the draft workplan, an investigation will be conducted into the best way to distinguish *brand name* versus *generic* drugs in prescription claims data. The American Hospital Formulary Service (AHFS) Drug Information may be the most effective way to categorize drugs on this axis. An intermediate deliverable will include a recommendation on whether possible and how to distinguish between brand name and generic drugs in the final report tables. Depending on the results of our investigation, there may be a drop-down menu available on the website for the user to view data by drug type: brand-name, generic, or overall.

Table A. Summary of Data Sources and Reporting Time Periods by Payer Type

| **Table Set** | **Data Source** | **Payer Type** | **Most Recent Available**  **Time Period** | **Comparison**  **Time Period** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Top 25 Most Frequently Prescribed Drugs | APCD | Commercial, MaineCare | 2017 Q3 – 2018 Q2 | 2016 Q3 – 2017 Q2 |
| Medicare | 2017 Q1 – Q4 | 2016 Q1 – Q4 |
| Top 25 Costliest Drugs | APCD | Commercial, MaineCare | 2017 Q3 – 2018 Q2 | 2016 Q3 – 2017 Q2 |
| Medicare | 2017 Q1 – Q4 | 2016 Q1 – Q4 |
| Top 25 Drugs With Highest Year-Over-Year (YOY) Cost Increases | APCD | Commercial, MaineCare | 2017 Q3 – 2018 Q2 | 2016 Q3 – 2017 Q2 |
| Medicare | 2017 Q1 – Q4 | 2016 Q1 – Q4 |

# Table Shell Examples

Table 1. Top 25 Most Frequently Prescribed Drugs, Maine

*Table is sorted by column 3, Number of Prescriptions.*

| Rank | Medication Name | Therapeutic Class(es) | Number of Prescriptions | Total Cost Per Year | Share of Prescriptions in State (%) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 25 |  |  |  |  |  |

*Source*: Maine All-Payer Claims Data, Pharmacy Claims

Table 2. Top 25 Costliest Drugs, Maine

*Table is sorted by column 4, Total Cost Per Year.*

| Rank | Medication Name | Therapeutic Class(es) | Number of Prescriptions | Total Cost Per Year | Share of Prescriptions in State (%) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
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*Source: Maine All-Payer Claims Data, Pharmacy Claims*

Table 3. Top 25 Drugs With Highest Year-Over-Year (YOY) Cost Increases, Maine

*Table is sorted by column 5, Increase in Total Spent Over Previous Year*

| Rank | Medication Name | Therapeutic Class(es) | Number of Prescriptions | Total Cost Per Year | Increase in Total Spent Over Previous Year (%) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 25 |  |  |  |  |  |

*Source: Maine All-Payer Claims Data, Pharmacy Claims*