

Need Help with Medication Costs?

Medication costs continue to rise with little relief in sight. Medicare Part D has brought some relief to those 65 and older but many are still unable to fill prescriptions required to maintain their health.

However, there are two newly announced programs that are customer friendly. On October 23, 2006, Meijer announced its free prescription drug program designed to benefit at least one-half million Meijer customers at all 176 Meijer pharmacies throughout the Midwest. The program covers leading, oral generic antibiotics with a special focus on the prescriptions most often used by children. The program includes at least one antibiotic from each of the major antibiotic classifications and more than 70 percent of the generic, pediatric prescriptions filled by Meijer. They are: Amoxicillin, Cephalexin, SMZ-TMP, Ciprofloxacin, Penicillin VK, Ampicillin and Erythromycin.

Any customer, regardless of insurance or co-pay, can take their prescription to any Meijer pharmacy and receive their designated antibiotic. According to Michael Zelwsky of Meijers, "There is no card required, no membership to purchase, no minimal charges, no special forms to fill out and no fees to pay." For more information, visit www.meijer.com or contact Michael Zalewski at 1-800-435-9539 or zalewski@sstpr.com.

Effective October 26, 2006 Wal-Mart/Sam's Club has a \$4 program for up to a 30 day supply of generic prescription medications in 14 states, including Indiana. Their list includes over 300 drugs for allergies, anti-anxiety, anti-inflammatory, antibiotics, antidepressants, antifungal, antipsychotic, antiviral, anxiety, asthma, cardiac, cholesterol, cough/cold, diabetes, gastrointestinal, glaucoma eye solutions, hormone, parkinsons, anti-seizure, thyroid, and vitamins. Wal-Mart states that they have included 14 of the top 20 prescribed medications used in the U.S. For a complete list of medications included, visit www.walmartpharmacy.com.

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