# CONSIDERATIONS FOR RETAIL LTC COMBO SHOPS



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# **COURSE DESCRIPTION / LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- Course will cover aspects of the business that will need to be considered when considering Retail LTC Combo for your pharmacy.
- We will outline the differences between Retail LTC Combo Shop Pharmacy and Closed LTC door Pharmacy.
- What types of services you will be required to provide.
- What are the differences between Buying Groups and Group Purchasing Organizations (GPOs)?
- Financial opportunities and risks.
- How to evaluate your financial opportunities in servicing LTC patients and how to mitigate the potential risks.



## WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF A RETAIL COMBO PHARMACY?

Retail "Open Door" Pharmacy that is servicing eligible patients that are in Long-Term-Care facilities.

Services only a limited amount of patients in these settings

Operates under one SBOP/DEA license

Isn't ready or interested in incurring the additional costs of going fully "Closed Door"

- Additional pharmacy location
- Separate staffing model
- Pharmacy system & other operational costs
- Automation
- Marketing costs



# LTC MARKETPLACE OVERVIEW

The Long-Term Care Customer





Nursing Homes, Skilled Nursing Facilities, Assisted Living Facilities, Mental Health/Mental Retardation, Developmentally Disabled Facilities, Hospice, Correctional Facilities



In 2018, there were around 1,500 LTC pharmacy locations.



In 2018, the average LTC pharmacy servicing 1500 to 3000 beds had \$5 to \$15M prescription revenue and filled around 11 to 13 prescriptions per patient per month. NCPA estimates the cost to dispense for LTC pharmacies is 25% more than retail pharmacies (Retail independents dispensed 59,746 prescriptions).



LTC Pharmacy spending has increased over the last four years. In 2014, it was a little over \$4.8M and in 2018, the average total annual spend per pharmacy is around \$6.2M, this increase is primarily due to emerging brand products in categories such as Multiple Sclerosis and typical market brand inflation.

Alzheimer/Dementia

Anti-Coagulants

Therapeutic
Categories
Representing
Top Sales

Insulins

Respiratory Inhalers

Atypical Antipsychotics



Resources: MHA, Drug Channels Institute



# LTC CLOSED DOOR VERSUS COMBO-SHOP PHARMACY

What are the differences between a true closed door LTC pharmacy and a retail combo-shop pharmacy?







## LTC CLOSED DOOR VERSUS COMBO SHOP PHARMACY

#### **Closed-door LTC**

Little to no signage outside

Not open to walk-in traffic

Often a warehouse type of setting

Secure or locked entrance

Service long-term-care facilities only

- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Assisted Living Facilities
- Mental Health Facilities
- Hospice
- Correctional Facilities

High adoption of automation technology

NCPDP taxonomy of Long-term Care pharmacy

## Retail combo shop

Traditional retail pharmacy with signage outside

Accept walk-in traffic

Service traditional retail prescriptions along with some long-term care facilities or patients

Low to medium automation technology

NCPDP taxonomy of Community retail pharmacy



## WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR RETAIL COMBO?

# Expanded customer access

- Aging population moving to LTC settings
- Nontraditional care settings Mental Health, Correctional
- Emergence of the "at-Home" model

#### **Increased Reimbursement**

- Access to LTC Rates for Medicare Plan D Plans Increase dispensing fee
- Reduced DIR Fees LTC claims

# Improved Cost of Goods

- Branded Rx Manufacturer Contracts Off Invoice
- Branded Rx Manufacturer Rebates Quarterly



# WHAT IS REQUIRED TO GAIN ACCESS TO COMBO PROGRAMS

Retail pharmacy that services patients that medically unable come to the pharmacy and that are in the following care settings:

- Assisted Living Facilities (ALF)
- Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF)
- Group/Personal Care Homes
- Correctional Facilities
- Intermediate Care Facilities ICF-IID
- Hospice
- Independent Living/Medical at home
- Developmentally Disabled Group Homes
- Chronic Psychiatric Facilities



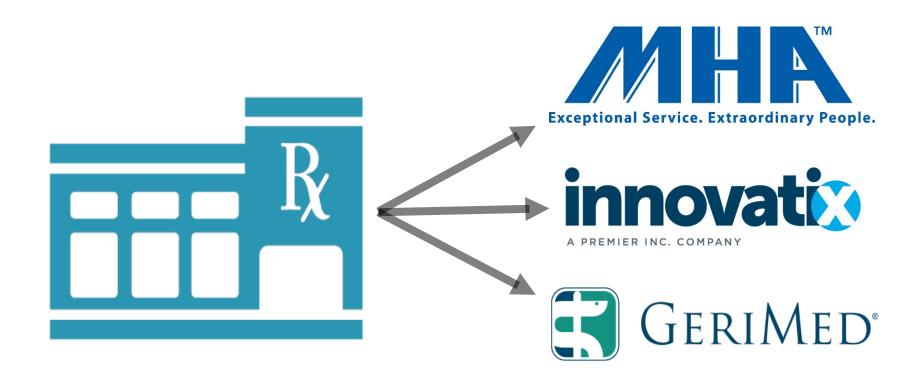
# WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO GAIN ACCESS TO LTC COMBO PROGRAMS

# **CMS Guidelines**

Comprehensive Inventory and Inventory Capacity

- Formulary drugs commonly used in the LTC setting Pharmacy Operations and Prescription Orders
- Drug Utilization Review (DUR)
- Procedure manuals & Training LTC Facility staff
   Special Packaging
- i.e. Compliance packaging
   IV Medications
- Capacity to provide IV medications
   Compounding/Alternate Forms of Drug Composition
   Pharmacist On-call Service
- 24 hours a day / 7 days a week
   Emergency Boxes & Emergency Logbooks
   Miscellaneous Reporting, forms & Prescription ordering supplies

# WHO ARE THE RETAIL LTC COMBO GPO'S?





#### WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GPO VERSUS BUYING GROUP

# **Group Purchasing Organization** (GPO)

- Negotiate prices with drug manufacturers
- Portfolio of contracted prices passed onto members
- Include contract prices for both brand and generic products
- Pharmacy still negotiates deal / agreement with wholesaler
- Services such as PSAO, reconciliation, reporting, etc. for alternate care pharmacies

# **Buying Groups**

- Negotiates buy plan with wholesalers on behalf of members
- Utilize wholesaler's generic portfolio (i.e. AAP SOURCE, etc.)
- Structured deal for individual pharmacy and pharmacy group (common ownership)
- Services such as PSAO, reconciliation, reporting for retail pharmacies



# **GROUP PURCHASING ORGANIZATIONS – (GPO'S)**

# Who are the Long-Term Care GPO's?

- GeriMed
- Managed Health Care Associates (MHA)
- Premier (Innovatix)

# What are the services that they provide?

- Industry Expertise
- Manufacturer Contracts
- PSAO support
- Marketing information
- Sample contracting
- Reimbursement services



#### WHAT ARE THE 3RD PARTY CONTRACTING OPTIONS FOR COMBO?

#### Retail PSAO's

Additional contracting for LTC services – attestation required

- LeaderNET/MSInterNET
- Arete
- PPoK

# Long-Term Care GPO PSAO's

- Requires separate NPI/NCPDP credentialing
- Pharmacy should evaluate PSAO contracting
- Pharmacy system partition needed



# MEDICARE PART D LTC COMBO SHOP - LEADERNET / MSINTERNET

# By the numbers

10





months for PBMs to recognize LTC affiliation



# MEDICARE PART D LTC COMBO SHOP - LEADERNET / MSINTERNET

# By the numbers



of pharmacists provide LTC services to their patients



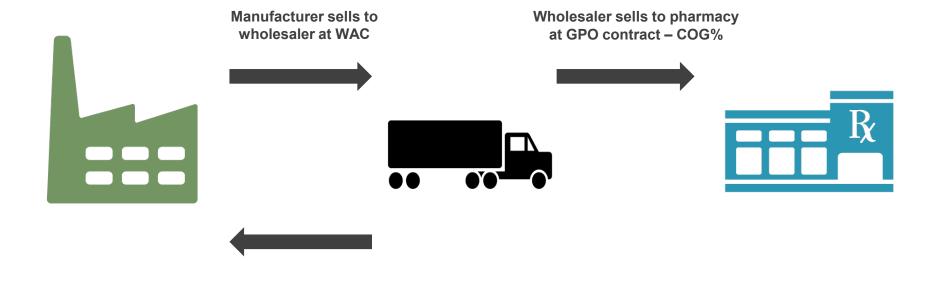
LeaderNET / MSInterNet pharmacies utilize Medicare Part D LTC combo shop solution



Skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) serviced Medicare Part D covered stays in 2018

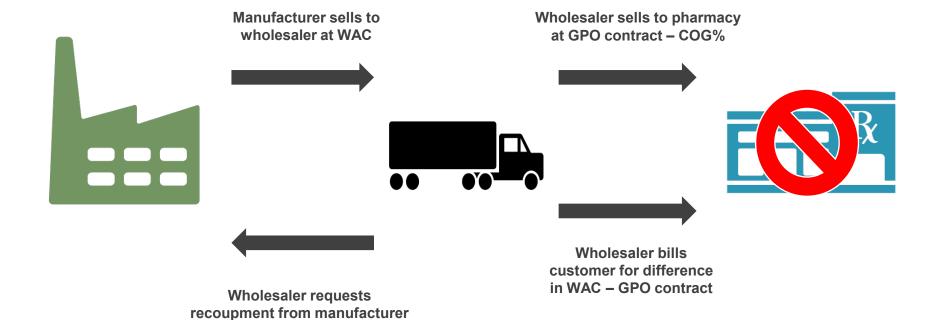


# **MANUFACTURER CONTRACTING - CHARGE BACK**



Wholesaler requests recoupment from manufacturer for WAC – GPO contract

# **MANUFACTURER CONTRACT - CHARGE BACK DENIAL**



for WAC - GPO contract

**DENIED!** 

#### **RECAP & REVIEW**

#### **Customer considerations**

Is your pharmacy servicing patients that reside LTC settings?

ALF, SNF, or other eligible location

Is your pharmacy capable to fulfill the 10 CMS requirements?

GPO program fees - Is there a fee to join a GPO combo program?

What are the specific \$\$ savings for the GPO manufacturer contracts?

Does the pharmacy have space for separate inventory?

#### **Customer risks**

Manufacturer chargebacks

PBM / payor audit risk



# **ADDITIONAL INDUSTRY RESOURCES**

NCPA - LTC

https://ncpa.org/ltc



Senior Care Pharmacy Coalition (SCPC)

https://seniorcarepharmacies.org/



