



Change to First Choice Health PPO Network in Tri-Cities, WA

First Choice Health has changed their PPO network to include only Kadlec Regional Medical Center and Lourdes Medical Center for hospital services in the Tri-Cities, WA region (Franklin, Benton and Walla Walla counties). Effective August 1, 2014, Trios (Kennewick General Hospital) along with their employed physicians will no longer be in the First Choice Health Network.

First Choice Health has many qualified providers and facilities in the Tri-Cities region. In order to find a doctor, members can go to the www.fchn.com website and click on “Find a Doctor, Hospital or Facility” link. While it is still possible to obtain services from Trios (Kennewick General) and their affiliated physicians, after August 1, 2014, they will be an out-of-network provider benefit.

First Choice Health™

Healthy Employees. Healthy Companies.™

More information about this change can be found in a FAQ document posted on the TPSC website:

www.trustedplans.com/docs/first-choice-health-network-change-faq.pdf

COBRA Election Notice Revised

Though much of the language is in line with the 2004 version, parts of the revised initial notice are new or rearranged. The updated notice includes two new paragraphs of text: (1) referencing coverage options under the exchanges that may be available to individuals who lose their group health coverage, and (2) special enrollment options. More information can be found at www.dol.gov/ebsa/publications/cobraemployer.html or you can find a model election notice posted on the TPSC website: www.trustedplans.com/docs/cobra.pdf

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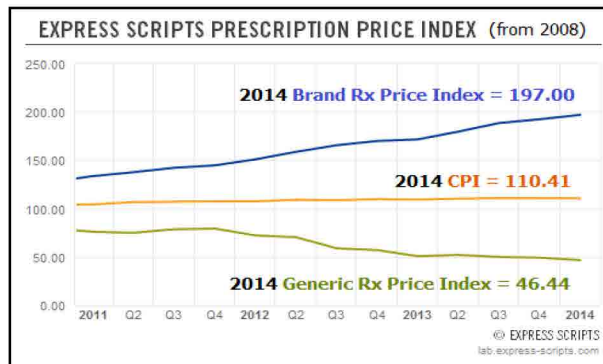


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Express Scripts Drug Report

1. Price gap between brand name & generics continues to rise.



2. Divergent growth forecasted amongst classes:

Traditional therapy classes are expected to have stable growth as measured by per member per year (PMPY) at 2% in 2014, 2015 and 2016. These include drugs for high cholesterol, high blood pressure, ulcer disease, depression, mental disorders, infections, diabetes, and ADD.

Specialty classes, which include treatments for inflammatory conditions, MS, cancer, and HIV, are expected to increase PMPY at 16.8% in 2014, 18.0% in 2015 and 18.2% in 2016. (See “Hep C Drug Solvadi” on page 2)

3. Prescription drug related waste added up to \$428 billion in 2013, summarized here:

PRESCRIPTION DRUG RELATED WASTE		
TYPE	2013	Explanation
Drug	\$ 53.4 (billion)	Using higher-priced meds instead of cost-effective alternatives
Pharmacy	\$ 37.4	Not using cost-effective pharmacies, networks or home delivery
Health	\$ 337.1	Patients' nonadherence to medication treatments

Express Scripts has developed a proprietary system as part of their pharmacy benefit management program to understand why these costly behaviors occur and find solutions to reduce their effect on overall patient health and to lower costs for its members and their employers. *SOURCE: Express Scripts Lab 2013 Drug Trend Report*