

340B: CLEARING UP A CLOUDED PROGRAM

A Perspective for Independents as 340B Contract Pharmacies

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Boring Stuff

- Rules
- Regulations
- Compliance

Fun Stuff

- \$\$\$
- 😊

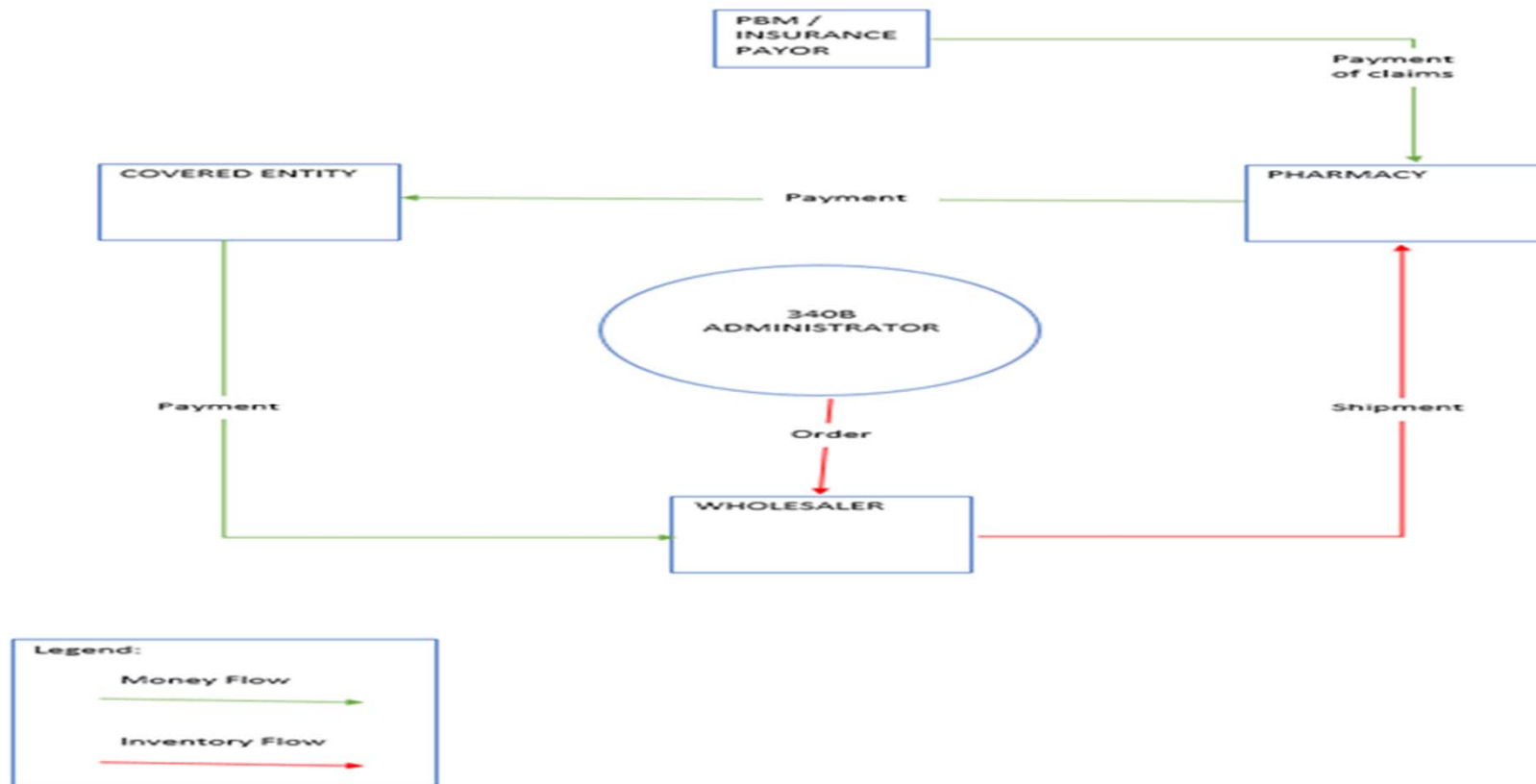
BUT SERIOUSLY...TOPICS CONT'D

- What is 340B?
- 340B Contract Pharmacy--explained
- How did 340B become so confusing!?
- A Tale of Two Perspectives
- A Dose of Reality ☹️
- Major Keys
- Takeaways
- Questions...

WHAT IS 340B?

- Federal program enacted in 1992
- Benefits the “safety-net” serving underserved communities/populations
- Discounted pharmaceuticals
- Two big “no-nos”
 - Double Dipping
 - Diversion
- Not just for indigent/uninsured and no you do not have to keep separate inventory

CONTRACT PHARMACY—EXPLAINED



ENHANCE PROFITABILITY, STREAMLINE OPERATIONS, AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PATIENT CARE.

CONTRACT PHARMACY—EXPLAINED

- Pharmacy: Rx 12345—Levemir Flextouch
 - Retail transaction (as it happens today)
 - Reimbursement (pt. copay + insurance pymt.): \$400
 - Retail AAC: \$391
 - Pharmacy Gross Margin: \$9
 - 340B transaction
 - Reimbursement (pt. copay + insurance pymt.): \$400
 - Amt. Due Covered Entity: \$368
 - 340B Dispense Fee: \$32

CONTRACT PHARMACY—EXPLAINED

- Pharmacy 340B Savings
 - \$391 (AAC) - \$368 (Due CE) = \$23 reduction in cost for Levemir Flextouch
- Covered Entity 340B Savings
 - Reimbursement (payment from pharmacy): \$368
 - 340B AAC (to replace your inventory): \$0.14
 - Total Net “Savings”: \$367.86

HOW DID 340B GET SO CONFUSING?!

- A trip down 340B lane...
 - Pre-2010
 - 1-to-1: Contract Pharmacy per Covered Entity site
 - Direct contracts, usually with local independent—inventory kept separate, used for discount to uninsured/indigent
 - A simpler time *sigh*
 - Post -2010
 - 1-to-many: As many Contract Pharmacies as you want per Covered Entity site
 - Chains entered the mix
 - 340B TPA explosion— “cast the net”
 - Birth of “Virtual Inventory”

CONFUSION CONT'D...

- The Players
 - Covered Entities—hospitals/clinics eligible for 340B pricing
 - Contract Pharmacies—YOU
 - Contracted dispense agent for eligible facility; “in-house” extension of CE
 - Dispense drugs > Collect payment > Drugs replaced > Share payment
 - 340B Administrators (i.e. MacroHelix, Sentry, SUNRx, CaptureRx...ZZZZzzzz)
 - Software tracks eligibility, compliance, inventory, ordering, invoicing...
 - Advisors?...340B PBMs???
 - Consultants
 - Regulatory & compliance experts—YES; Business of Pharmacy experts—not so much

A TALE OF 2 PERSPECTIVES

- **Contract Pharmacies—Assumptions**
 - 340B can and should be positive for your business
 - Symbiotic relationship with CE to serve community as a medical partner
 - Supports local hospital or clinic and indigent / uninsured population
 - Must be worthwhile for both parties
- **Perspective**
 - We assume the risk (financial); CE deposits a check and does not do any work

A TALE OF 2 PERSPECTIVES

- **Covered Entities—Assumptions**
 - Pharmacy “receives” a dispense fee
 - Pharmacy receives inventory for “free,” replaced by CE
 - Pharmacy sees increased foot traffic and Rx volume as a “partner” or “in-network” Contract Pharmacy
- **Perspective**
 - We assume the risk (Regulatory); Pharmacy is transactional business, pills put in a bottle, set cost to dispense, a simple increase in “fee” is enough

YOUR COMPANY
YOUR BOTTOM LINE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATED PHARMACIES **2018**



SO WHO IS RIGHT?

ENHANCE PROFITABILITY, STREAMLINE OPERATIONS, AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PATIENT CARE.

A DOSE OF REALITY

- Risks and responsibilities on both sides (CP & CE)
- Two starkly contrasted realities:
 - 340B: The Regulatory Side
 - CE level comprehension--
 - 340B: The Business Side
 - CE level comprehension--
- Couple with lack of understanding of retail pharmacy business = a dangerous combination

A DOSE OF REALITY CONT'D

- Contract Pharmacy 340B IS a pharmacy program—
NOT a hospital / clinic program
 - Pharmacy sees the pt./customer, receives inventory, collects money

A DOSE OF REALITY CONT'D

- The Reality...
 - Dispense Fee replaces pharmacy regular retail margin, not in addition
 - Pharmacy only realizes the dispense fee if / when drug is replaced
 - Replenished inventory is not “free,” pharmacy pays CE for it
 - Pharmacy floats cash / inventory for months until inventory is replaced or “trued up”
 - Pharmacy receives replaced inventory whether or not it is wanted or needed. Results in excess inventory that pharmacy cannot sell, equals cash tied up in inventory
 - DIR fees are “clawed back” by PBM / insurances retrospectively. 340B causes compounded DIR charge for pharmacy

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- These things impact a pharmacy's ability to pay CE
- If pharmacy cannot see/feel the benefit of 340B, they will opt-out
- When understood, these challenges can be overcome

MAJOR KEYS!

- What can you do?
 - Know your power!!!
 - You are filling these Rxs today without 340B
 - By participating, you are ALLOWING the CE to make money from YOUR prescriptions—they are NOT paying you, the other way around

MAJOR KEYS!

- What can you do?
 - Know your options
 - Covered Entities and 340B TPAs are NOT PBMs!...so don't let them dictate your financials
 - Understand how the program will work and decide how YOU want it to operate
 - Opinions are like 'you know what...'—listen to data not opinions or comparisons ("Wal-Mart does it for \$XXX, so you should too...") WHO CARES?!

MAJOR KEYS!

- **Communicate**
 - Work with and discuss as much as possible directly with Covered Entity
 - Explain challenges that come along with 340B at your level (inventory, DIRs, cash flow, etc.)
 - Detail your ancillary and clinical services and how they need funding and management, ultimately enhancing outcomes of mutual patients
 - You are NOT A WAL-MART! So tell them not to compare you to one...

REMEMBER THESE 3 THINGS...

- Pay close attention to these 3 KIPs when analyzing any existing or future 340B opportunity
 1. *Program Model*—look out for terms such as: (“winners,” “profit-rule/logic,” “carve-out,” “claims where reimbursement is greater than pharmacy fee and 340B COGS”
 2. *Dispense Fees*—this will be your new GM per Rx; make sure you have an idea of which claims will be 340B, your GM on those Rxs and potential impact on wholesaler/GPO rebates, discounts, etc.
 3. *DIR Fees*—DIR fees must be addressed; you are paying \$\$\$ that you did not collect. Non-negotiable.

AND FINALLY...

- DO NOT SIGN a contract if you aren't comfortable
- If you are unsure of your current program—do something about it!
- CE/TPA/Consultant are not incentivized to give you the best deal possible—what if there is a more optimal arrangement available?
- There is almost always opportunity for improvement

RANT OVER...

Questions?