



South Carolina Pharmacy Association

In response to several member questions regarding the Medicaid Pharmacy Lock-In program, SCPhA has put together the following Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).

Q. Will the lock-in program be for all Medicaid patients?

A. No. The lock-in program will be for patients identified by Medicaid as those who use multiple pharmacies and/or multiple physicians. Medicaid estimates that patients required to participate in a pharmacy lock-in program will number approximately 1,500-2,500. Furthermore, the lock-in program is currently scheduled to be implemented for those patients in Fee for Service Medicaid only. The Medicaid HMOs are not participating at this time.

Q. What if the lock-in pharmacy is closed and the patient needs to have their prescription filled?

A. Medicaid is aware of this issue and is working on a process to ensure patients will not go without their medication. Medicaid may establish an override for these specific situations.

Q. How will a pharmacy be identified as the lock-in pharmacy?

A. Patient choice. If a patient does not select a pharmacy, one will be assigned to the patient based on history (most frequented pharmacy). The Pharmacy will have the option of being the designated pharmacy, can accept or decline. A letter regarding the lock in designation will be sent to the pharmacy.

Q. Will the patient have a choice of any pharmacy provider or will they be presented with a list of providers?

A. They will not be presented a list. They will be asked for their preferred pharmacy. If no response, patient will be assigned a pharmacy based on history. The pharmacy can accept or decline the lock in status.

Q. Can a patient switch anytime during the year?

A. Lock in will be for one year, unless the pharmacy opts out at some point.