firstscript℠

2019 DRUG TRENDS

EVALUATING IN-NETWORK AND OUT-OF-NETWORK TRENDS

In part two of our series we'll provide analysis on the trends experienced within our combined in- and out-of-network channels to address the total view of prescription activity.

BREAKING DOWN IN-NETWORK AND OUT-OF-NETWORK PRESCRIPTIONS

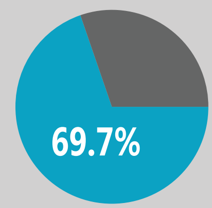
Total out-of-network prescription **utilization**
30.3%

Up from 29.0% in 2018

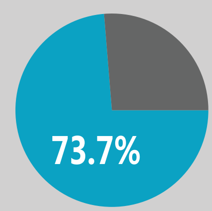
Total out-of-network prescription **cost**
26.3%

Up from 24.1% in 2018

2019 retail, mail-order, and extended network prescriptions



Total utilization



Total cost

Generic utilization increased 1.5% pt. from **86.4% to 87.9%** of all prescriptions

Scripts per claim down **0.2%**

Cost per script up **2.6%**

Cost per claim up **2.4%**

KEY TREND CHANGES FOR ALL CLASSES

Generic efficiency increased 0.3% pts. from 96.0% to 96.3%

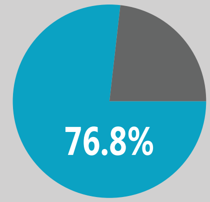
TOP 10 THERAPEUTIC CLASSES BY COST

1. Opioids*
2. Topicals*
3. Anti-convulsants*
4. NSAIDs*
5. Muscle Relaxants*
6. Antidepressants, Non-TCA*
7. Antiulcer*
8. Antiemetics
9. Gastrointestinal Agents
10. Hematological Medications

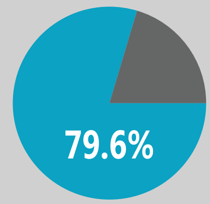
*Ranked in the top 10 by cost and utilization

7 of the top 10 therapeutic classes by cost were also in the top 10 for utilization

The top 10 classes accounted for:



Total scripts



Total cost

Anticonvulsants experienced an increase in utilization driven primarily by gabapentin coupled with decreasing costs due, in part, to the release of Lyrica®'s generic, pregabalin

Hematological medications were the only new class to come into the top 10 in 2019, rising from the #14 position in 2018

Scripts per claim down **0.9%**

Cost per script up **1.7%**

Cost per claim up **0.8%**

TOP 10 THERAPEUTIC CLASS CHANGES

Opioids were the only therapeutic class of the top 10 that experienced decreased utilization and cost per claim

OPIOID TRENDS

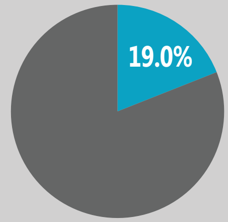
Opioid trends saw decreases across the board from 2018-2019

Scripts per claim down **10.3%**

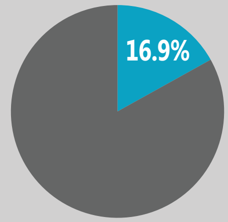
Cost per script down **1.1%**

Cost per claim down **11.3%**

Opioids accounted for:



Total scripts



Total cost

Scripts and cost down over 2% pts. from 2018

The continued decline in opioid use led to an increasing share of utilization among the other therapeutic classes making up the top 5

Percentage Point Change from 2018 – 2019

Percentage of Total Scripts	Percentage of Total Cost
Topicals up 0.5%	Topicals up 0.7%
Anticonvulsants up 0.3%	Anticonvulsants down 0.3%
NSAIDs up 0.1%	NSAIDs flat at 0.0%
Muscle Relaxants up 0.2%	Muscle Relaxants up 0.3%

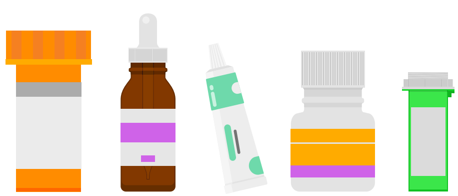
IMPACT OF DECLINING OPIOIDS ON TOP THERAPEUTIC CLASSES

TOP THERAPEUTIC CLASSES BY CLAIM AGE

The usage of opioids within more mature claims (2 years or older) trended downward with a corresponding increase in use of NSAIDs and topicals

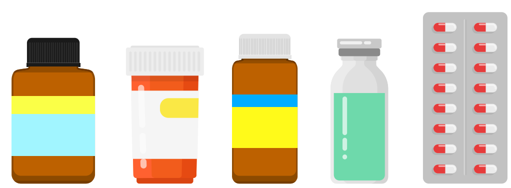
Claims less than 2 years of age

NSAIDs, muscle relaxants, steroids, anti-infective, and non-opioid analgesics were used more often for the treatment of injuries during the early stages of the claim



Claims 2 years or older

Short-acting opioids, anticonvulsants, antidepressants, and sustained-release opioids were used more frequently for injuries two years and beyond



Methodology

Aggregate trends were based upon clients where both in-network (retail/mail order and extended networks) and out-of-network (OON) Bill Review prescriptions were available for analysis. Including this client base allows for the most accurate representation of overall trend experience.

About First Script

First Script is the Pharmacy Benefit and Drug Utilization Management Program offered as part of the Coventry suite of products. The role of a work comp PBM has evolved in response to new dispensing practices, medications, regulations, and overall health care reform. This shift has moved from management of price alone to a greater focus on utilization controls and an increasing demand for better outcomes and improvements in total cost. First Script considers pharmacy transactions from all available dispensing and billing sources through comprehensive data integration that allows for the application of price and utilization pharmacy management tools. Our Clinical Intervention Model impacts overall cost and outcomes through program integration and collaboration with providers.

About Coventry

Coventry offers workers' compensation, auto, and disability care-management and cost-containment solutions for employers, insurance carriers, and third-party administrators. With roots in both clinical and network services, Coventry leverages more than 35 years of industry experience, knowledge, and data analytics. Our mission is to return people to work, to play, and to life. And our care-management and cost-containment solutions do just that. Our networks, clinical solutions, specialty programs, and business tools will help you focus on total outcomes.

Acronyms

NSAIDs: Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs
OON: Out-of-network

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