

APA Official Actions

Position Statement on Controlling Drug Prices

Approved by the Board of Trustees, July 2025

Approved by the Assembly, May 2025

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Issue:

The number of drug shortages and the cost of prescription drugs in the United States have been increasing over the past decade, reducing patient access to needed medications, including generic, name-brand, oral, and injectable medications. Patients’ ability to access these medications is crucial, with many patients forgoing needed medication due to high costs, increasing suicide rates across the United States, and making emergency room boarding of patients with mental illness a national crisis. Given the complexities of the drug supply chain, rising drug prices and shortages are the result of multiple factors. A wide range of policy changes are necessary to control costs and ensure patients have consistent and affordable access to medications that best meet their health needs.

It is the position of APA that:

- **Greater transparency in drug pricing is required to ensure patient affordability. Stability and prioritization in drug formularies to ensure the consistent availability of generic medications and safeguard patient care and safety is needed, and**
- **Utilization management tools, such as prior authorization and step therapy, should not be used to control prescription drug costs.**