

Pharmacy Coupons and the UVA Aetna Health Plan

Q: What are pharmacy coupons?

Pharmacy coupons are discounts or savings programs offered by drug manufacturers to help reduce the cost of specific medications. These coupons are typically provided directly by the pharmaceutical company and are separate from the UVA Aetna Health plan.

Q: Why do pharmacy coupons change from year to year?

Pharmaceutical companies decide the terms and availability of their coupon programs. Changes can occur for several reasons, including:

- **Budget adjustments:** Companies may alter their funding for coupon programs annually.
- **Market conditions:** Availability can depend on competition, patent expiration, or changes in medication demand.
- **Regulatory changes:** Compliance with new laws or policies can impact program terms. Because these are decisions made solely by the manufacturer; the health plan has no control over these changes.

Q: Are pharmacy coupons connected to my health plan?

No, pharmacy coupons are independent of your health plan. They are not managed or influenced by your health insurance provider. Your health plan's benefits and coverage remain separate from any discounts or savings provided through these coupons.

Q: What should I do if my coupon program ends or changes?

If a coupon is no longer available or the terms have changed, consider the following steps:

1. **Contact the manufacturer:** Confirm if there are alternative savings programs or rebates for the medication.
2. **Talk to your doctor:** Ask if there are comparable medications covered by your health plan.
3. **Check with your pharmacist:** They can explore other discounts or cash price options.