

# Prescription Assistance SOAP Note

This SOAP algorithm helps PAs understand the application of different types of prescription assistance programs. The SOAP also points PAs and patients to useful resources that explain in greater detail many of the prescription assistance programs now available.

## Subjective

✓ Will adherence to recommended pharmaceutical treatment yield a better health outcome?

✓ Does this patient have difficulty paying for prescriptions?

If the answer to both questions is **YES**, then:

## Objective

What are patient characteristics that may determine eligibility for available prescription assistance programs?

1. Age
2. Current prescription drug coverage
3. State
4. Chronic Medications

## Assessment

What prescription assistance programs are available for this patient?

### Medicare Part D

1. Age 65 or older, persons with disabilities
2. No coverage or not as good as Medicare basic benefit
3. In all states, eligibility requirements are the same
4. Most medications covered, formularies may differ some

### State Assistance Programs

1. Any age, primarily elderly, children, and pregnant women
2. No coverage
3. In most states, eligibility requirements differ
4. Medication formularies differ significantly

### Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs

1. Any age
2. No or limited coverage
3. All states
4. Programs are administered by one or more pharmaceutical companies

## Plan

1. Recommend appropriate patient education resources.
2. Offer means for more information.

### Medicare Part D

- Medicare: 800/MEDICARE; [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)
- Social Security (low-income assistance): 800/772-1213; [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
- Access to Benefits Coalition/ National Council on Aging: [www.benefitscheckup.org](http://www.benefitscheckup.org)
- State Health Insurance Programs: [www.shiptalk.org](http://www.shiptalk.org)

### State Assistance Programs

- Area Agencies on Aging: 800/677-1116; [www.eldercare.gov](http://www.eldercare.gov)
- State Health Insurance Programs: [www.shiptalk.org](http://www.shiptalk.org)
- Access to Benefits Coalition/ National Council on Aging: [www.benefitscheckup.org](http://www.benefitscheckup.org)

### Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs

- Partnership for Prescription Assistance: 888/4PPA-NOW; [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org)
- TogetherRxAccess: 800/444-4106; [www.togetherrxaccess.org](http://www.togetherrxaccess.org)
- NeedyMeds: [www.needymeds.com](http://www.needymeds.com)



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