

THE OTHER SIDE OF PDABs: What Every Legislator Should Know

Judge temporarily blocks Colorado's first-in-the-nation price cap on a prescription drug

The Colorado Sun, July 2026

THE FALSE PROMISE OF MARYLAND'S PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD

Maryland Matters, October 17, 2024

PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARDS: ANOTHER QUICK FIX WITH UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES?

Madelaine A. Feldman, MD

It is clear doctors are worried about
the impact of upper payment limits
on their patients' access to the
medicines they need. Unfortunately,
it's also clear doctors feel that we
aren't being asked.

Liudmila Kastsianok, MD

Millions in Taxpayer Money Spent. Zero Patient Savings.

- ➔ Nine states have established PDABs and committed millions in taxpayer funding. To date, no state has demonstrated savings for patients or savings for the state.
- ➔ An Upper Payment Limit (UPL) is a price ceiling established by a PDAB for certain prescription drugs. In practice, UPLs have proven difficult to implement, have faced legal challenges, and have yet to demonstrate savings for patients.
- ➔ After years of taxpayer-funded operations, Colorado's PDAB UPL was blocked by a federal judge, leaving taxpayers to fund continued legal defense without demonstrated patient savings.

Know the Facts Before You Vote

While the intention behind PDABs and UPLs is to alleviate financial burdens on patients, the reality is these policies will lead to higher out-of-pocket (OOP) costs, premium increases, restricted pharmacy reimbursement, and reduced medicine availability.



One-fifth of community pharmacies reported that they will not stock drugs subject to UPLs due to reimbursement concerns.¹



57% of payers foresee increases in health insurance premiums if a UPL is enforced.²



Patients saw their OOP costs rise by an average of **32%** for drugs subjected to federal price caps.³

Come see us at booth 5125

¹ "Report for Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program and Financial Health of Pharmacy." National Community Pharmacists Association, 2025.

² "Payer Perspectives Confirm UPLs Will Likely Raise Costs and Hinder Patient Access to Medicines." Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease, 2025.

³ "Pioneer Institute Launches Tracker Showing Drug Price Controls Are Raising Out-of-Pocket Costs for Patients." Pioneer Institute, 2025.

