

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

SECTION 1: FORMULARY MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

SECTION 1 MODULE 1: FORMULARY OVERVIEW

This module begins the Advanced Principles of Formulary Management training program. It provides an overview of formulary management's basics and key business lines and will briefly introduce benefit design. Additionally, learners will explore the general structures and common management tools used within drug formularies.

Learning Objectives

1. Summarize the different lines of business for which payers develop and maintain formularies.
2. Define the process for formulary development.
3. Review the general structures and common management tools used within drug formularies.
4. Discuss the differences between pharmacy and medical drug management.

SECTION 1 MODULE 2: UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT

Utilization management is a key strategy used in formulary management to ensure medications are used safely, appropriately, and cost-effectively. This module dives into the different utilization management tools and strategies, such as step therapy, prior authorization and quantity limits, and how they are applied in practice. This module will also discuss the principles of cross-benefit management and its place in formulary management.

Learning Objectives

1. Define utilization management and its role as a cost-containment strategy.
2. Review the different tools and strategies that are applied in utilization management.
3. Discuss the principles of cross-benefit management and its role in formulary management.

SECTION 1 MODULE 3: PBM

Pharmacy Benefit Managers, or PBMs play a large role in the health care system, and more specifically in formulary management. This module will review the different core functions of a PBM as well as the benefits and challenges of utilizing rebates.

Learning Objectives

1. Review the role of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) and health plans in formulary management and the different types of PBM models.
2. Discuss the basic principles of rebates, including their purpose, structure, and parties involved.
3. Identify the benefits and potential drawbacks of utilizing rebates and their impact on health costs and patient access.

SECTION 1 MODULE 4: REGULATORY AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Understanding regulatory and legal considerations is a large part of developing and maintaining a formulary. This module will explore the FDA approval process, patents, and how various regulatory bodies impact different lines of business. In addition, this module will review the regulatory landscape and legislative mandates and considerations for ensuring compliance and mitigating risks associated with formulary decisions.

Learning Objectives

1. Summarize how the FDA drug approval process and patents impact formulary decision-making.
2. Discuss the role and impact of various regulatory bodies on different lines of business.
3. Describe the regulatory landscape and legislative mandates related to drug pricing, reimbursement, and formulary management strategies.

SECTION 2: FORMULARY DEVELOPMENT

SECTION 2 MODULE 1: P&T COMMITTEE

This module will focus on Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committees, their management, regulation, and best practices for prepping and leading a meeting. Learners will review the essential components of a P&T charter and learn how to identify potential conflicts of interest from potential committee members.

Learning Objectives

1. Summarize the requirements and regulatory framework governing P&T committees.
2. Identify essential components of a P&T Committee using a sample P&T charter.
3. Discuss potential conflicts of interest and their implications on formulary decision-making.

SECTION 2 MODULE 2: CLINICAL EVALUATION

Clinical evaluation is crucial in formulary management to ensure formulary decisions are based on scientific evidence, optimizing patient outcomes. Participants will learn how to identify important components within a clinical trial's design and how to interpret and evaluate a study's outcomes and endpoints. In addition, this module will discuss key attributes and strategies to objectively review the quality of clinical guidelines. Lastly, learners will review considerations for designing a non-inferiority study using an interactive case.

Learning Objectives

1. Identify important components within a clinical trial's design and how they impact formulary decision-making.
2. Discuss strategies to interpret and evaluate a study's outcomes and endpoints.
3. Identify key attributes and strategies to objectively review the quality of clinical guidelines.
4. Review considerations for designing a non-inferiority study using a case study example.

SECTION 2 MODULE 3: VALUE ASSESSMENT

Value assessment plays an essential role in helping payers make informed decisions about how they develop their formularies. By the end of this module, learners will be able to define the key components of a value assessment and how to compare the different types of value assessment.

Participants will also learn about the different resources used for value assessment and each of their strengths and weaknesses.

Learning Objectives

1. Discuss the role of value assessment in formulary development and management.
2. Define the key components of a value assessment and how best to assess use in formulary decision-making.
3. Compare and contrast the types of value assessments.
4. Identify resources used for value assessments and their strengths and weaknesses.

SECTION 2 MODULE 4: COVERAGE DECISION/UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT

This module will discuss the various utilization management tools used in the formulary development stage and their strengths and weaknesses. It will also summarize the different components of a coverage decision and how utilization management strategies are used in this decision-making process.

Learning Objectives

1. Discuss best practices of implementing utilization management tools.
2. Summarize the benefits and challenges of common utilization management tools.
3. Review the components of a coverage decision.
4. Discuss utilization management strategies used in coverage decision-making.

SECTION 2 MODULE 5: SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND HOT TOPICS

Managed care is an ever-evolving landscape with new ideas, products, and innovations. This module will review various special considerations and hot topics that many formulary management pharmacists will encounter. It includes topics such as various FDA accelerated approval pathways, biosimilars, digital therapeutics, and high-investment therapies and their implications on formulary management. It will also review health disparities and how patient perspectives may be incorporated into decision-making. Lastly, this module will summarize value-based care models and their impact on outcomes-based reimbursement and population health management.

Learning Objectives

1. Define different FDA accelerated approval pathways and their implications on formulary management.
2. Discuss considerations for incorporating biosimilars, digital therapeutics, and high-investment therapies into a formulary.
3. Recognize health disparities and their influence on healthcare access and affordability.
4. Identify methods for collecting and integrating patient feedback into formulary management practices.
5. Summarize value-based care models and its impact on outcomes-based reimbursement and population health management.

SECTION 3: FORMULARY OPERATIONS

SECTION 3 MODULE 1: OVERVIEW OF FORMULARY OPERATIONS

This module will provide an overview of formulary operations and how they impact payer organizations' workflows. It will take learners through the process of submitting a formulary for regulatory and client approval, as well as discuss key components of formulary operations and logistics.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the process of submitting a formulary for regulatory and client approval.
2. Discuss key components that go into formulary operations and logistics.

SECTION 3 MODULE 2: FORMULARY COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

Communication and education are essential for operating a successful formulary to ensure patients are getting access to the right medication at the right time. Formulary changes can be disruptive to patients, so it is essential to recognize the importance of timely and effective communication to both patients and providers. This module will help learners identify different approaches to engage and educate patients and providers about changes to the formulary. In addition, this module will review the regulatory and compliance considerations for formulary changes.

Learning Objectives

1. Recognize the importance of timely and effective communication regarding changes to a formulary.
2. Identify different approaches for engaging and educating patients and providers about changes to the formulary.
3. Describe the regulatory requirements for formulary notifications.

SECTION 3 MODULE 3: UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION

Utilization management can be resource-intensive and require significant administrative operations. This module will explore electronic prior authorization and gold carding and their significance in utilization management operations. Learners will be able to identify sources of administration burden and strategies to address them. Lastly, this module will identify the different types of smart logic systems along with their benefits and challenges in utilization management operations.

Learning Objectives

1. Define electronic prior authorization and its significance in utilization management operations.
2. Describe gold carding and its role within utilization management.
3. Identify sources of administration burden and strategies to address them.
4. Recognize the different types of smart logic systems and their benefits and challenges in utilization operations.

SECTION 4: FORMULARY MAINTENANCE

SECTION 4 MODULE 1: CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

Classification systems are essential tools for organizing medications, which ensures there is adequate coverage for various medical conditions and supports formulary decisions. This module will summarize the role and function of classification systems and discuss how health care organizations leverage these tools in the maintenance of formularies.

Learning Objectives

1. Summarize the role and function of classification systems used in formulary maintenance.
2. Discuss how healthcare organizations leverage drug data clearinghouses.

SECTION 4 MODULE 2: FORMULARY MAINTENANCE CONSIDERATIONS

Drug withdrawals, safety recalls, drug shortages, and discontinuations are some of the many unforeseen circumstances that may disrupt patient care and access. This module will identify the implications of these circumstances on a payer's formulary. This module will discuss the considerations and impact of limiting NDCs, limited distribution, new FDA approvals, and criteria management will have on formulary decision-makers.

Learning Objectives

1. Review the considerations and impact of limiting NDCs.
2. Identify the implications of drug withdrawals, safety recalls, drug shortages, and discontinuations on formulary management and patient care.
3. Discuss how limited distribution, new FDA approvals, and criteria management affect formulary management

SECTION 4 MODULE 3: STRATEGIES FOR MONITORING THE FORMULARY

Monitoring the formulary is crucial to anticipating any events, such as a new FDA-approved product or drug recall, that may affect the formulary and patient access. This module will describe the various methods and channels for collecting feedback as well as key metrics and trends for monitoring the formulary.

Learning Objectives

1. Summarize the importance of monitoring the formulary and its common challenges.
2. Describe methods and channels for collecting feedback on formularies from different stakeholders.
3. Summarize trends and key metrics for monitoring the formulary.

SECTION 4 MODULE 4: UTILIZING FORMULARY RESOURCES AND BEST PRACTICES

There are various resources and best practices to ensure optimal formulary management. By proactively monitoring and assessing pipeline drugs and utilizing pricing tools, it can inform formulary management decisions to get ahead of high-cost and impact medications. This module will discuss formulary lookup resources to access accurate and up-to-date formulary information as well as benchmark resources for comparing formulary performance and metrics.

Learning Objectives

1. Identify resources and best practices for monitoring and evaluating product pipelines.
2. Summarize the role of pricing tools in formulary decision-making.
3. Discuss formulary lookup resources to access accurate and up-to-date formulary information.
4. Identify benchmark resources used for comparing formulary performance and metrics.