

# PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES, PBMs, AND PHARMACIES IN VERMONT

PBMs are advocates for consumers in the fight against high list prices

PBMs will save  
**\$2.02B**  
across all Vermont health programs over ten years.<sup>1</sup>

PBMs will save  
**\$560M**  
via mail-service and specialty pharmacies (2015–2024) in Vermont.<sup>2</sup>

PBMs save payers and patients an average of \$962 per person per year<sup>3</sup>

**PBMs put downward pressure on manufacturer drug prices**

PBMs will prevent 1 billion medication errors over the next 10 years nationally<sup>3</sup>

## SAVINGS ARE REALIZED THROUGH:

✓ Encouraging the use of generic and lower cost brand drugs

✓ Reducing waste and increasing adherence

✓ Negotiating price concessions with drug manufacturers

✓ Creating networks of affordable, high quality pharmacies

✓ Providing clinical support to patients taking specialty medications



### Drug makers alone set the price of drugs

Although PBMs negotiate with drugmakers to bring down the net cost of Rx drugs, manufacturers are ultimately responsible for setting the list prices of their products. **PBMs drive prices down by forcing manufacturers to compete with one another.**



**22.2% of pharmacies in Vermont are independent pharmacies<sup>4</sup>**



**Nationwide independent pharmacies are increasing, not decreasing<sup>4,5</sup>**

Between 2011 and 2021, the number of **independent pharmacies increased by more than 2,645 stores, or 12.8%.<sup>4</sup>**

1 Visante, PBMs: Generating Savings for Plan Sponsors, Feb. 2020.

2 Visante, Mail-Service and Specialty Pharmacies to Save More than \$300 Billion Over 10 Years, 2014.

3 Visante, The Return on Investment (ROI) on PBM Services, 2020.

4 Quest Analytics, Pharmacy Counts, 2021. Pharmacy count data is from January of a given year.

5 Independent Pharmacies in the U.S. are More on the Rise than on the Decline, March 2020.