

APRIL 2020



News and Views



AMCP Amicus Brief in *Rutledge v. PCMA* Warns Against a Ruling That Diminishes Use of Managed Care Pharmacy Tools

AMCP filed an [amicus brief](#) in the U.S. Supreme Court case [Rutledge v. The Pharmaceutical Care Management Association \(PCMA\)](#) that argues a ruling in favor of Rutledge would drive up health care costs and hinder patients' health outcomes and ability to access affordable medications. The case is scheduled to be heard April 27. *Rutledge v. PCMA* centers on a 2015 Arkansas law that aims to regulate how pharmacy benefit managers contract with pharmacies under health plans governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). AMCP strongly agrees that the federal ERISA law — which promotes uniformity and predictability to maximize health care value — preempts the Arkansas law. [Learn more about AMCP's position.](#)

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Good morning, Heal Learner
March 26, 2020

Editor's Note

This special Saturday edition of AMCP Daily Dose is a weekly wrap-up of the most important COVID-19 news in general, and the most relevant to AMCP members. We hope you find this update useful.

Leading the News

AMCP recognizes the myriad challenges you face during the COVID-19 crisis. To keep our member informed on the latest developments affecting managed care pharmacy, AMCP has introduced a new member benefit, the **AMCP Daily Dose: COVID-19 Weekly Edition**, each Saturday morning. Here, you will find a trusted digest of the week's COVID-19 news related to managed care pharmacy practice. Please keep visiting the AMCP website for related information and announcements.

AMCP Launches *Daily Dose: COVID-19 Weekly Edition*



Perspectives From CEO Susan A. Cantrell

Read AMCP CEO Susan Cantrell's New Blog Post: "Keeping Patients a Top Priority," which discusses specific challenges managed care pharmacy professionals face during this global pandemic. Cantrell explains why managed care tools during this challenging time are critical to help promote appropriate prescribing, protect patients from dangerous side effects and unproven treatments, and contribute to overall public health.



Save the Date: *AMCP eLearning Days* Takes Place April 20-24

AMCP is committed to helping you meet your continuing education needs on your schedule. That's why we're excited to invite you to **AMCP eLearning Days from April 20-24**. Join these virtual days of education to learn about what's happening in managed care now, including: *Digital Therapeutics: Understanding the Emerging Product Class; Drug Pipeline: Traditional Pharmaceuticals and Biosimilars; Health Policy Trends Impacting Managed Care Pharmacy; Pharmaceutical Marketplace Trends*. Every day, you can: *Participate in webinars held from noon-1 pm and 3-4 pm ET; Attend complimentary satellite symposia held between 5pm and 8pm ET; Browse our online poster gallery that includes more than 50 poster presentations any time*. **Registration is free for AMCP members** and \$30 per webinar for non-AMCP members. Select sessions will be accredited for continuing pharmacy education credit. **Stay tuned for registration details!**



Thank You to AMCP 2020 Sponsors! We Appreciate Your Support

AMCP and the AMCP Foundation would like to thank all of the organizations that contributed to AMCP 2020. While we regret not having the opportunity to meet face to face in Houston, we appreciate your generous support and acknowledge the importance of our industry partners in making AMCP national meetings a success. At AMCP 2020, our **Premier Level** sponsors were: AstraZeneca; Genentech; and Intercept Pharmaceuticals. Our **Ally Level** sponsors were: Amgen; Biogen; Otsuka Pharmaceutical Development & Commercialization Inc.; and Relypsa Inc., a Vifor Pharma Group Company. We

also want to thank our **Contributor and Supporter Level** sponsors and all of the companies that signed up to exhibit at AMCP 2020. [Read more.](#)



Nexus 2020 Call for Session Proposals Is on Hold

Due to the cancellation of AMCP 2020, we're reevaluating our virtual and live meeting strategy for this year. Our goal is to keep our educational content current and ensure that it's presented in a timely manner through appropriate educational channels. As such, we're putting the [AMCP Nexus 2020 Call for Proposals](#) on hold. The call will be revised based on the topics and presentations that will be presented virtually and those that might transition to Nexus 2020. The revised call will be more targeted and released in the late spring. For questions, please contact Kristine Paschalis, AMCP director of education at kpaschalis@amcp.org.



**PARTNERSHIP
FORUM**
No. 1 — 2020

Helping Patients Anticipate and
Manage Drug Costs

MARCH 12-13, 2020 | THE ALEXANDRIAN | ALEXANDRIA, VA

AMCP Partnership Forum Generates Reform Suggestions for 'Helping Patients Anticipate and Manage Drug Costs'

Aligning stakeholder perspectives, providing timely and meaningful drug pricing information, and establishing common definitions of health care value could help ensure patients are able to access medications they need at costs they can afford. These ideas and more were generated at the latest AMCP Partnership Forum, "Helping Patients Anticipate and Manage Drug Costs," March 12-13 in Alexandria, Va. [Learn more.](#)



JMCP Publishes Proceedings from AMCP Partnership Forum on Digital Therapeutics

[Read the proceedings](#) from AMCP's Partnership Forum on ways to support the adoption and use of digital therapeutics (DTx). The September 2019 event gathered multidisciplinary stakeholders to examine these emerging therapeutics from many angles, including how managed care organizations evaluate their value; where digital therapeutics fit in within a coverage benefit; evidentiary standards needed for coverage of digital therapeutics; and how payers/managed care organizations may leverage digital therapeutics for value-based care and patient engagement. [Learn more about the event.](#) To partner with AMCP in our ongoing effort to create effective systems and infrastructures for DTx, email corpopportunities@amcp.org.

AMCP/AMCP Foundation Research

Agenda Identifies Top Evidentiary Gaps in Managed Care Pharmacy

Research agenda elements

1. Real-world evidence to inform managed care pharmacy decision making
2. Value-based models in managed care pharmacy to address total cost of care
3. Impact of benefit design or utilization management strategies on patient outcomes
4. Impact of direct patient care services provided by managed care pharmacy on patient outcomes

The AMCP and AMCP Foundation Joint Research Committee have published a [joint research agenda](#) in *JMCP* that identifies and prioritizes critical evidentiary gaps in managed care pharmacy. AMCP and the AMCP Foundation hope their work will inspire AMCP members, researchers, and funding agencies to close these gaps in knowledge and understanding.



AMCP Corporate Member Spotlight: Abarca Health LLC

AMCP News & Views caught up recently with Jason Broschow, president and CEO of Abarca Health, LLC, a pharmacy benefit manager, and health IT company based in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Miami, Fla. AMCP corporate members, like our individual members, are taking positive steps to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Corporate member Abarca announced recently that it and Triple-S Management Corp. had expedited the launch of Triple-S en Casa, Puerto Rico's first prescription home delivery program, to expand medication access during the ongoing pandemic. [Read more](#)



Volunteers Needed for Virtual Preceptors

Would you like to help a pharmacy student? AMCP is looking for volunteers to serve as virtual preceptors. Many students have had their last rotation canceled and are unable to meet the requirements to graduate. [Learn how you can help.](#)

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