# Trust and Consumer Advocacy in Healthcare

What Health Care Providers can Learn from Business Experience

Professor Glen Urban, MIT HIT Symposium July 20, 2006

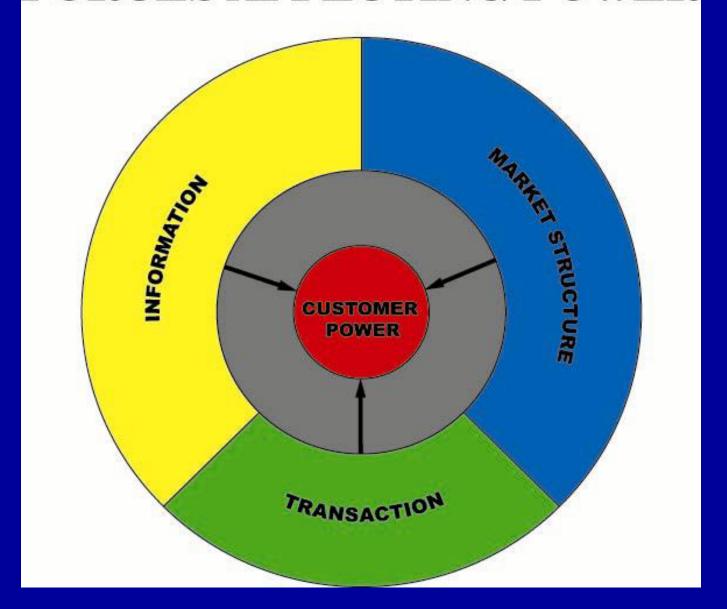
## **AGENDA**

- Growth of Customer Power Business
- Business Paradigm Shift Emerging -- Transition to Trust and Customer Advocacy
- Tools for Customer Advocacy -- Business
  - Advisor in Finance
- Apply to Health Services?
- Current Research –
- Medicare Advocacy
  - Advisor/Community/Learning
  - Morphing For Cognitive Style

## AUTOS

- Autobytel Carpoint Cars Direct
- 70% go to Web, now 6% Buy
- Price Lower -- \$450
- Less Time Involved -- Higher Satisfaction -- More Control
- Less Effective Negotiators Gain Most

## FORCES AFFECTING POWER



## **OTHER INDUSTRIES**

- Travel (Travelocity, Expedia, Orbitz)
- Finance BankRate.com, eTrade
- Real Estate 1% rebate
- Retail multichannel, comparators
- eBay \$25 billion (\$5.0 billion USED Cars)

## BUSINESS RESPONSE: STRATEGIC CHOICE – PUSH OR PARTNER

## PUSH

- 1950-2000 model
- TV media
- Promotion

## TRUST

- Advocate
- Honest/open/full info
- Relationship



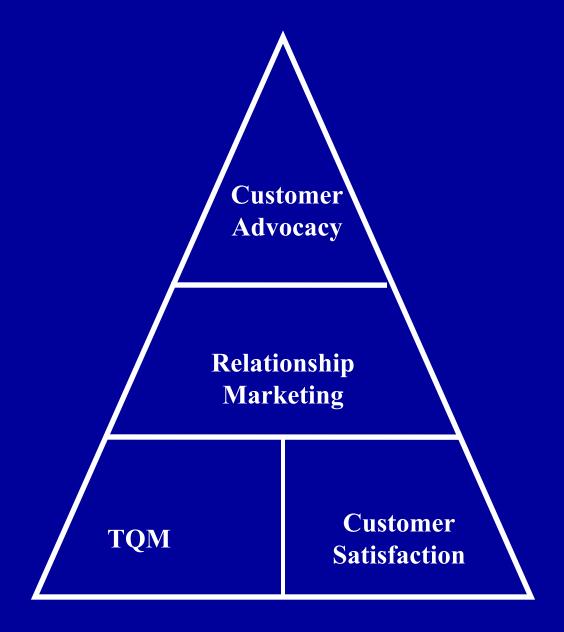


Figure 1 – The Advocacy Pyramid

## ADVOCACY TOOLS

- MIT Research GM, Intel, BT, Credit Unions, and Suruga Bank
- Experience with Trusted Advisors
- Finance Fidelity's Mortgage Advisor

## FIDELITY MORTGAGE SEARCH BETA

Unbiased advice about getting the best rates, reducing your closing costs, and finding a mortgage that's right for you.



Buying a home

Refinancing your mortgage

Getting a home equity loan

Find average rates in your area

Zip code

Get Rates

## **Today's National Averages**

6.223% 30-Yr Fixed

6.412% 30-Yr Fixed Jumbo

5.793% 15-Yr Fixed

5.715% 5/1 ARM

Source: Informa Research Services, Inc.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

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## **Purchase**

### INTERACTIVE GUIDES

- > Which mortgage is right for you?
- > Who has the "best" rates?
- > Can you save on closing costs?

### ARTICLES

- > The Best Rate vs. the Best Deal
- > Making the Most of Brokers
- > Beware: Low/Interest-Only Loans
- > Tips for a Successful Closing

Refinance

**Home Equity** 

# Which mortgage is right for you? Zip code 01741 Purchase price \$600,000 How long you will live there 20 years Down payment

Get Answers

An unconventional loan can help you afford the home of your dreams now, but your monthly payments could increase so much, it may not be affordable for you in the future.

**TELL US WHAT YOU THINK** 

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## .

## **Purchase**

### INTERACTIVE GUIDES

- > Which mortgage is right for you?
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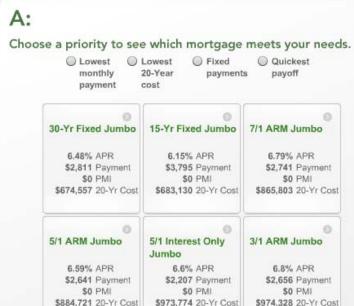
- > The Best Rate vs. the Best Deal
- > Making the Most of Brokers
- > Beware: Low/Interest-Only Loans
- > Tips for a Successful Closing

Refinance

Home Equity

## Q: Which mortgage is right for you? Zip code 01741 Purchase price \$600,000 How long you will live there 20 years Down payment \$150,000

Get Answers



Rates are based on regional averages. Source: Informa Research Services, Inc.

Is choosing a mortgage really this easy?

Print



## **Purchase**

### INTERACTIVE GUIDES

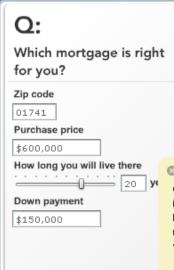
- > Which mortgage is right for you?
- > Who has the "best" rates?
- > Can you save on closing costs?

### ARTICLES

- > The Best Rate vs. the Best Deal
- > Making the Most of Brokers
- > Beware: Low/Interest-Only Loans
- > Tips for a Successful Closing

## Refinance

**Home Equity** 



## A:

Choose a priority to see which mortgage meets your needs.

- Lowest monthly payment
- O Lowest 20-Year cost
- Fixed payments
- Quickest payoff

30-Yr Fixed Jumbo

While this loan will provide the lowest initial monthly payments, you won't build equity in your home - a serious risk if you sell your home and its value hasn't appreciated.

In addition, see how your monthly payments may increase after year 5, prompting refinance costs if you can't afford the higher payments.

Find rates for this loan

Get Answers

15-Yr Fixed Jumbo

6.15% APR \$3,795 Payment \$0 PMI \$683,130 20-Yr Cost 7/1 ARM Jumbo

6.79% APR \$2,741 Payment \$0 PMI \$865,803 20-Yr Cost

5/1 Interest Only Jumbo

6.6% APR \$2,207 Payment \$0 PMI \$973.774 20-Yr Cost 3/1 ARM Jumbo

6.8% APR \$2,656 Payment \$0 PMI \$974,328 20-Yr Cost

Rates are based on regional averages. Source: Informa Research Services, Inc.

Is choosing a mortgage really this easy?

Print





## **Purchase**

## How to Save on Your Closing Costs

INTERACT

> Which mortgag

> Who has the "b

> Can you save o

ART

> The Best Rate v

> Making the Mo

> Beware: Low/In

Refinance

Home E

One way lenders cover costs and make money is by charging closing cost fees. Some lenders throw in "junk fees" that aren't industry standard or charge unreasonable mark-ups on others. By comparing fees

1	from a few different lenders, you'll be able to spot when one is out of line.										
		Estimate	Lender Name	Lender Name	Lender Name	Lender Name	Lender Name				
١	Loan Details										
٠	Lender Fees	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				
0	rigination Points	0.005%									

Administration Fee	\$275			
Application Fee	-			
Loan Processing Fee	-			
Commitment Fee	-			

\$0

\$0

\$0

\$80

\$31

\$1000

Miscellaneous Fees > Tips for a Succe

Tax Service Fee

Wire Transfer Fee

 Third Party Fees Government Fees

Prepaid Items

Why would you negotiate closing costs?

Some Lender Fees are Negotiable

First, compare the fees each lender gives you against the estimate provided and then against estimates of other lenders. From here, you'll have the information you need to negotiate fees down.

R vment Yr Cost

nbo

needs.

0 nbo

vment Yr Cost

Print

Print

Close

\$0

Clear All

## CUSTOMER POWER IN HEALTH

- Information
- New Players
- Direct to Consumer Advertising Push
- Empowerment Examples

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## The Merck Manual-Second Home Edition

The world's best-selling home medical reference

- » Available online
- » Available online in other languages



## The Merck Manual of Health & Aging

A comprehensive guide to the changes and challenges of aging

» Available online



## **Healthcare Professionals**



## The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy

The world's most widely used medical textbook

- » Available online
- » Available online in other languages



## The Merck Manual of Geriatrics

A comprehensive review of geriatric medicine and care of the elderly

» Available online

Veterinarians

» Available online in other languages



## MERCI

## The Merck Index\*

A one-volume encyclopedia of chemicals, drugs and biologicals

\*Sample content available for free. Complete online version requires subscription.



## The Merck Veterinary Manual\*



A comprehensive, reliable source of information on all aspects of animal healthcare

» Available online\*

\*The Eighth Edition (1998) is available free online. For current information, consult The Merck Veterinary Manual, 9th edition (2005).

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1 in 2 people with CHRONIC HEARTBURN say it keeps them up at night.





June 30, 2006

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## advertisement

**BOARDS & BLOGS** 

The Stress of Nighttime Heartburn





## Check Your Symptoms: Eyes / Ears

Use this online medical symptom checker to find out if you need immediate medical attention for problems with your eyes or ears.

Eye Problems & Injuries, Ear Problems & Injuries

## Eve Problems & Injuries

Burns to the Eye (Chemical, Thermal, Utraviolet) Eye Injuries (Blows to the Eye, Burns to, Objects in) Eye Problems (Noninjury) Objects in the Eye Pinkeve.

## Ear Problems & Injuries

Body Piercing Problems

Ear Canal Problems (Swimmer's Ear)

Ear Problems and Injuries, Age 11 and Younger Ear Problems and Injuries, Age 12 and Older

Earwax

Objects in the Ear

Possible Ear Infection, Age 3 and Younger Ringing in the Ears (Tinnitus)

## See Also:

Bites & Stings Skin Changes Skin Wounds & Injuries



## Select another body region:

- Skin
- Head/Neck
- Eyes/Ears
- Nose/Mouth.
- Chest
- Back/Buttocks
- Arm/Hand
- Abdomen
- Female Pelvis Male Groin
- Leg/Foot
- Other Symptoms
- All Symptoms
- Health Topics
- Find a Doctor

This tool is intended for information use only. Do not rely on it to make decisions about your health. Always consult your doctor for personal medical advice.

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### About TWC

Cancer Information

Online Support Groups

Virtual Wellness Community

Calendar of Events

Professional Education

Media Room

Sponsors

Research

Give

How to Start a TWC

Contact Us





Marathon Training

Program!!!

## Cancer support, education and hope.

The Wellness Community (TWC) is an international non-profit organization dedicated to providing support, education and hope for all people affected by cancer – at no cost.

Today, there are 21 Wellness Communities across the United States, five in development, and two abroad in Tokyo and Tel Aviv. Click here to find The Wellness Community closest to you.

If you are a person living with cancer, a caregiver or a health care professional seeking support or education, please visit The Virtual Wellness Community.



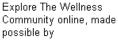
## TWC News

- New! Read the Summer 2006 WellNet news
- TWC Teams up to Strike Out Cancer
- TWC Launches New Clinical Trial Meta Search Engine
- · Group Loop featured in USA Today
- · View the Amgen Tour of California Photo Album
- "Frankly Speaking About New Discoveries in Cancer: Special Focus on Colorectal Cancer" available
- TWC and The Lance Armstrong Foundation to Partner on New National Program for People with Cancer
- Listen to Podcast featuring Kim Thiboldeaux, TWC President & CEO
- TWC in Japan.

## Cancer Information

- · Breast Cancer
- Clinical Trials
- Colorectal Cancer:











SEARCH

## NO MORE EXCUSES. NO MORE LUNG CANCER.

FACING LUNG CANCER

TAKE ACTION / GET INVOLVED

**NEWS AND RESOURCES** 

FOR PRESS

**About Lung Cancer** 

Treatment

Clinical Trials

Support

Resources

Faces of Lung Cancer

## Phone Buddy Program

The Lung Cancer Alliance Phone Buddy Program offers peer-to-peer support. This program matches lung cancer survivors or their caregivers and family members with other patients or caregivers who have gone through or are currently going through similar medical and social situations. Through a brief phone interview, a Lung Cancer Alliance staff member evaluates the caller's needs. Through a search of our existing Phone Buddy volunteers, the staff member locates someone who will most appropriately match the caller's needs. Once paired, the participants phone each other for social support, practical information, and above all, hope.

Our Phone Buddy volunteers include lung cancer survivors either finished with treatments or currently undergoing treatments and caregivers or family members of lung cancer patients. Each volunteer undergoes a brief phone training and has access to Lung Cancer Alliance resources.

AstraZeneca provides Lung Cancer Alliance with grants to maintain and expand this unique and successful program. These grants allow for the production of a training manual for the Phone Buddy volunteers as well as long distance calling cards for all participants.

If you are interested in obtaining a Phone Buddy or becoming one, please contact Lung Cancer Alliance by calling 800-298-2436 or emailing <a href="mailto:info@lungcanceralliance.org">info@lungcanceralliance.org</a>.

### Privacy | User Agreement | Site Map

@ Lung Cancer Alliance http://www.lungcanceralliance.org/

Lung Cancer Hotline: 800-298-2436 (US only); 202-463-2080; info@ungcanceralliance.org

The information presented in this Website is not intended as a substitute for medical care. Please talk with your healthcare provider about any information you get from this Website.



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RESEARCH

WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

TREATMENT OPTIONS & SUPPORT

► QUIT SMOKING → ASTHMA & ALLERGY

► YOUR LUNGS ► AIR QUALITY



## Treatment Options & Support

- Treatments, Options & Procedures
- Occupational Health
- School Programs
- Treatment Tools

Need Help with Treatment Decisions for Hay Fever?

Need Help with Treatment Decisions for Asthma?

Need Help with Treatment Decisions for Lung Cancer?

Need Help with Treatment Decisions for COPD?

- ▶ Living with Lung Disease
- For Professionals



## NexProfiler Treatment Option Tool FOR Lung Cancer (Non-Small Cell)

This tool will help you understand your treatment options and possible side effects.

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer is the most common type of lung cancer, comprising 80% of all cases.





NEW USERS - sign up here!	RETURNING USERS - log in here!
	E-mail:
E-mail:	Password: forgot password
NEW USER SIGN UP	help support LOG IN

## WHAT ARE NexProfiler Tools FOR CANCER?

- Interactive tools designed to help patients make informed treatment decisions.
- Full disclosure of treatment options, side effects, and outcomes.
- Personalized reports with pros and cons of treatment.
- Questions to ask your physician.
- Access to relevant abstracts of medical studies.

## WHY USE NexProfiler Tools FOR CANCER?

## Free Service...

The NexProfiler™ Tool for Cancer is a free service. There are no hidden fees or charges.

## EXAMPLE – MEDICARE PART D

- Enroll or pay penalty (1% per month)
- 30 million over 65 make decision by May 15
- Renew or change plans in Fall 2.5 million
- 2 Million new members each year
- Complex Plans vary
  - Price and coverage
  - Formulary local drug store specific
  - Donuts, Quantity Limit, Steps, Prior Authorization, Moving
- \$2,300 per year
- 99% of Patients Confused 94% of MDs
- GAO says 1/3 faulty answers when call in
- Goal: Build AdvocacySite and Morph

## Advocacy

COMPARE PLANS
ADVICE CENTRE
COMMUNITY
LEARNING CENTRE

## Resources

BUILD PLAN ALTERNATIVES ABOUT THIS SITE

My History Open

## Welcome to the Medicaid Health Advisor

Medicaid Home > We provide you with open information about all plans and providers available in your area and customize the user experience to fit your needs. To learn more, click <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>

## **Compare Plans**

## Medicare Plan Premium Deductible Copay

Humana	\$ 7.32	\$250	Yes
WellCare	\$ 28.64	\$0	Yes
United Care	\$ 27.00	\$0	Yes
Penn. Life	\$ 26.23	\$250	No
Advantra RX	\$ 19.35	\$0	Yes
Advantra RX2	\$ 25.67	\$250	Yes
SilverScript	\$ 24.67	\$200	Yes
Blue Medicare	\$ 28.67	\$0	Yes
Advantra RX2	\$ 25.67	\$250	Yes

Choose a range of providers

More >

Go ▶

## **Medicaid Advisor**

## James Brown, MD

I have been a general physician for over 30 years and know how difficult choosing a medicaid plan can be. I can leverage my experience and background to help you find an appropriate medicaid plan for your needs.

More >



(4) Listen

WATCH

More Detailed Advisor >

Get Advice on Broadband



## **Medicaid Discussion**



Share and Consult views

Go ▶

## **Learning Center**



Learn about Medicaid

Go ▶

### Advocacy

COMPARE PLANS ADVICE CENTRE COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRE

### Resources

BUTI D PLAN ALTERNATIVES ABOUT THIS SITE



## Medicaid Learning Centre >

Want to learn more about Medicaid? Here you will find everything you need, including descriptions of Medicaid Plans, the latest ratings, and links to other sites for more resources:

## Medicare Part D?



The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), replacing the Health Care Finance Association (HCFA) administers Medicade Part D.

## How many Medicare Part D plans are available?

Estimates that we have read stated that in 2006 there are 1.439 Stand Alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plans (or PDPs). Of these plans, there are 10 companies offering plans on a national level.



## The Donut Hole?



The Donut Hole (or Doughnut Hole) is a term used to describe the gap in the Medicare Part D plan coverage where the Medicare Part D plan participant (i.e., you) must pay 100% of the cost for your prescription drugs. This break in coverage is also sometimes referred to as the Coverage Gap. The Donut Hole is the phase of your prescription drug plan where the total retail costs of medication range from \$2,250 to \$5,100.



## Which Medicare Drug Plan is right for you?



## Larger Text



## Smaller Text



## Preparation

You'll need to know what medications you take. If you don't have this information available, contact your pharmacist for a print-out.



## Security & Privacy

All information you enter into the system is **PRIVATE** and will **NOT** be shared with any 3rd party. We use industry standard security techniques to protect your information from theft and misuse.

Find the right Medicare drug plan and also government aid for which I might qualify.

Give me a quick estimate of what plans may fit my needs.



Get Started

If you have any questions regarding how we safeguard your information, read our privacy policy.

We use Secure Socket Layer with 128-bit encryption whenever you enter information into a form. If you decide to save your session and return later, the information you enter into our system shall be stored in encrypted form.

Test



Open Saved Work



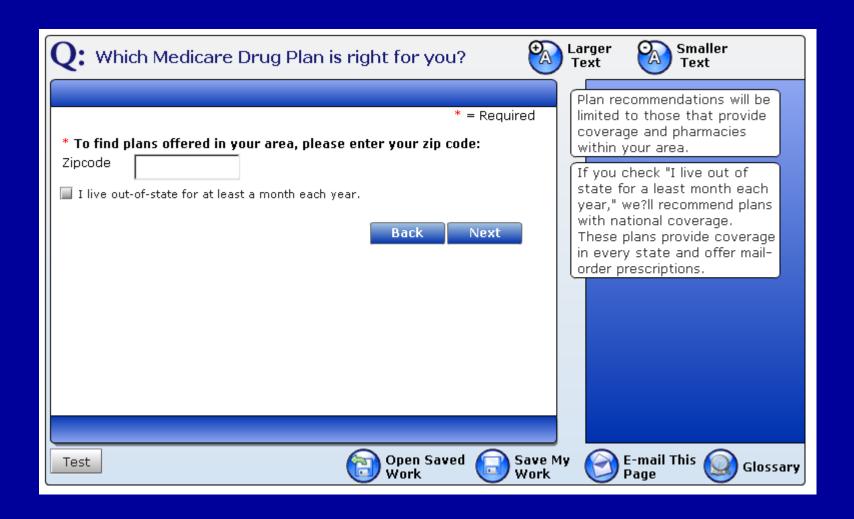
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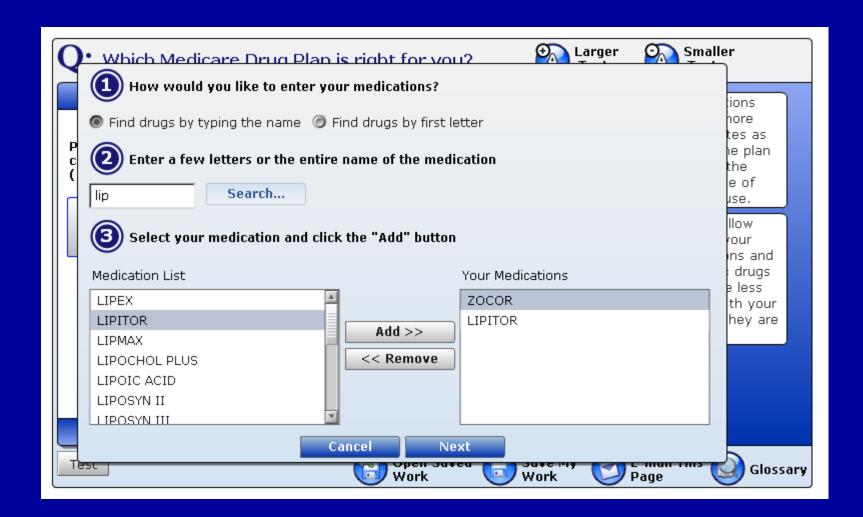


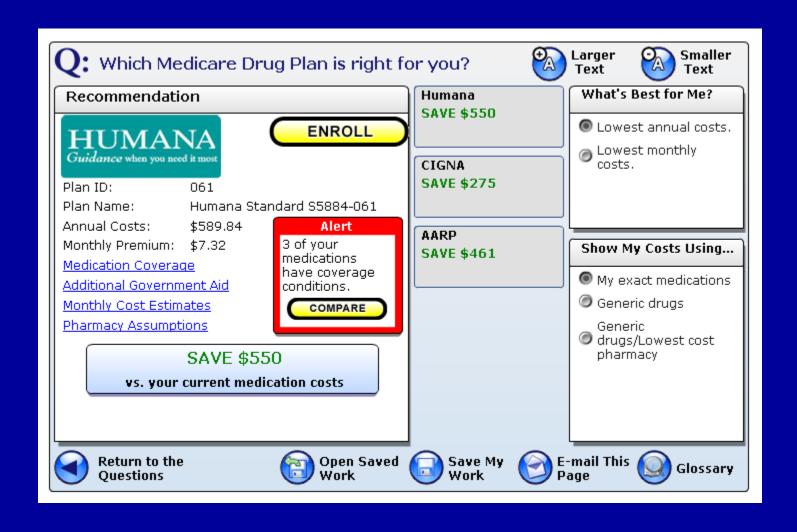
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Glossary







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Discuss and get feedback on medicaid here >

Discussion Board	
Poll	Which plan did you choose?  Humana Humana Enhanced Blue Medicare Wellcare Wellcare 2 United Care Penn. Life AdvantraRX SilverScript United Value Submit  Results 250 users have purchased Humana so far 150 users have purchased Humana Enhanced so far 150 users have purchased Blue Medicare so far 250 users have purchased Wellcare so far 200 users have purchased Wellcare so far 200 users have purchased United Care so far 250 users have purchased AdvantraRX so far 250 users have purchased AdvantraRX so far 250 users have purchased AdvantraRX so far 250 users have purchased SilverScript so far
Medicaid Providers	Subject  THESE PROVIDERS ARE GREAT > HUMANA IS SO COMPLICATED > I LOVE UNITED > BLUE MEDICARE IS TOO COMPLICATED > Post a message ▶

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## Medicaid Plan Comparisons > Welcome!

		Deductibl	e CoPay	Donut		
<u>Humana</u>	\$ 7	250	Yes	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Humana Enhanced	\$ 13	150	Yes	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
<u>AdvantraRX</u>	\$ 19	250	Yes	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Wellcare	\$ 20	250	Yes	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
SilverScript	\$ 24	250	None	Yes	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Penn. Life	\$ 26	250	No	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
United Care	\$ 27	100	Yes	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Wellcare 2	\$ 28	200	Yes	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Blue Medicare	\$ 28	150	Yes	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
United Value	\$ 31	250	Yes	None	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info

## **CURRENT RESEARCH**

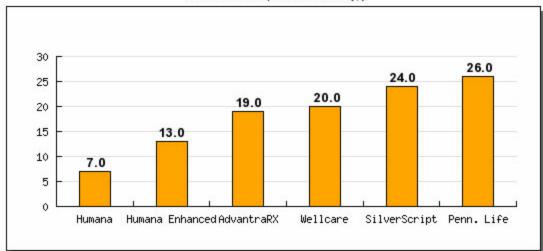
- Morphing to fit cognitive style
  - "Give me the facts and I can do this"
  - "I am confused "
    - "I need someone to trust "
    - "Help me make the right decision"
- Many Styles
  - Analytic/Holistic
  - Impulsive/Deliberative
  - Verbal/visual
  - Dominant/submissive
- Examples
  - 65 year old retired business man
  - 72 year old widow

## Medicaid Plan Comparisons > Welcome!

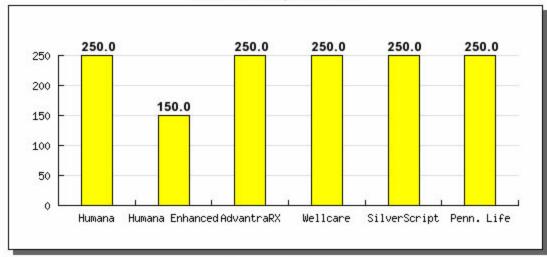
Provider	Premium	Deductible	CoPay	<b>Donut</b>	Mail	<b>Pocket</b>	<b>Pocket</b>	<b>Pocket</b>	Pocket	<u>Pocket</u>		
<u>Humana</u>	\$7	250	Yes	None	Yes	\$3600	2 year	Yes	Yes	£0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Humana Enhanced	\$13	150	Yes	None	Yes	\$3600	1 year	Yes	Yes	£0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
AdvantraRX	\$19	250	Yes	None	Yes	Yes	2 year	Yes	Yes	\$0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Wellcare	\$20	250	Yes	None	Yes	No	3 year	Yes	Yes	\$0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
SilverScript	\$24	250	None	Yes	None	No	3 year	Yes	Yes	\$0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Penn. Life	\$26	250	No	None	Yes	No	1 year	Yes	Yes	\$0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
United Care	\$27	100	Yes	None	Yes	No	4 year	Yes	Yes	\$0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Wellcare 2	\$28	200	Yes	None	Yes	No	2 year	Yes	Yes	\$0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
Blue Medicare	\$28	150	Yes	None	Yes	\$2700	4 year	Yes	Yes	\$0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info
United Value	\$31	250	Yes	None	N/A	No	2 year	Yes	Yes	\$0	Buy now ▶	Discuss Info

## Bar Chart View of selected plans See all >

Premium Comparison Chart (\$)



Deductible Comparison Chart



Co-payment Chart

## Discussion Board Poll Which plan did you choose? □ Humana Humana Enhanced Blue Medicare Wellcare Wellcare 2 United Care Penn. Life AdvantraRX SilverScript United Value Submit Live User selection distribution 11.9% Humana Humana Enhanced 9.5% ■Blue Medicare ■ Wellcare ■Wellcare 2 4.8% United Care Penn. Life 11.9% ■AdvantraRX ■SilverScript 11.9% United Value 11.9% Medicaid Subject **Providers** THESE PROVIDERS ARE GREAT > HUMANA IS SO COMPLICATED > I LOVE UNITED >

BLUE MEDICARE IS TOO COMPLICATED >

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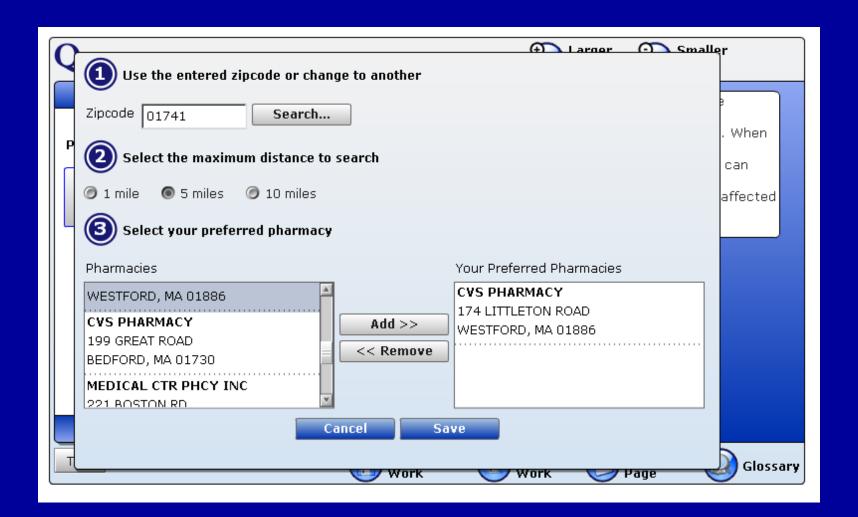
## Medicaid Learning Centre >

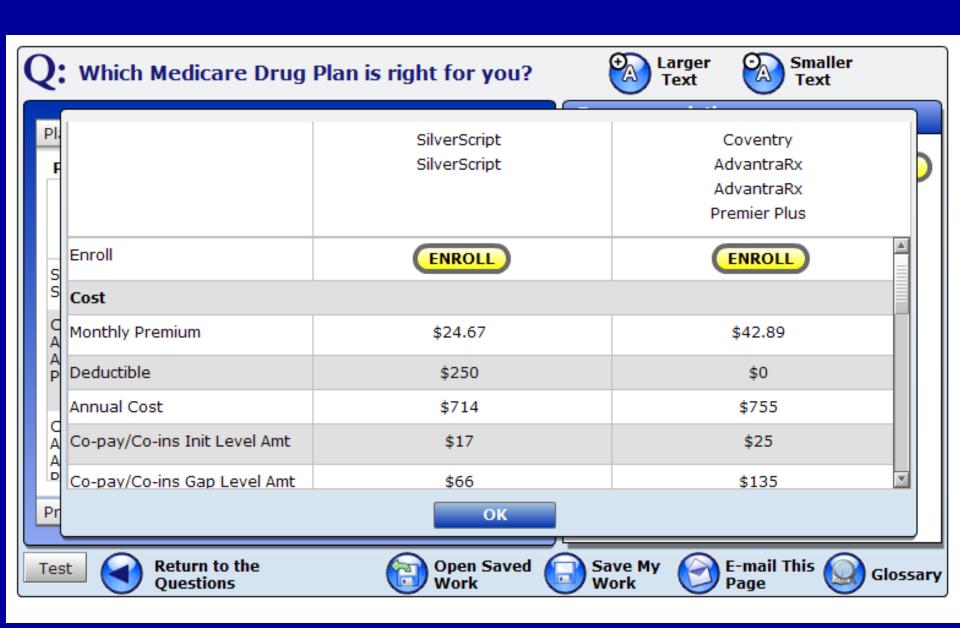
Want to learn more about Medicaid? Here you will find everything you need, including descriptions of Medicaid Plans, the latest ratings, and links to other sites for more resources:

## The Donut Hole?



The Donut Hole (or Doughnut Hole) is a term used to describe the gap in the Medicare Part D plan coverage where the Medicare Part D plan participant (i.e., you) must pay 100% of the cost for your prescription drugs. This break in coverage is also sometimes referred to as the Coverage Gap. The Donut Hole is the phase of your prescription drug plan where the total retail costs of medication range from \$2,250 to \$5,100. The Donut Hole can also be said to end when you're true out of pocket expense (TrOOP) reaches \$3,600. Some people have considered the Donut Hole as a second deductible before the plan's catastrophic coverage begins. In other words, the CMS model Medicare Part D plan has a \$250 deductible (100% paid by the individual) and then 75% coverage from \$251 until \$2,250 (25% paid by the individual). Then, as noted, after \$2,250, the individual pays again 100% up to \$5,100. After \$5,100 the individual pays only 5% of the retail cost for their medications (or \$2 for generics and \$5 for brand medications, whichever is higher). Certainly, not every plan follows the CMS model and some plans provide additional coverage to close up the Donut Hole so that the individual would not face the second 100% out of pocket expenses. For example, some plans will provide coverage in the donut hole by using Generic Drugs with a co-payment or alternatively, by using coverage of both Generic and Brand Drugs with a different co-payment for each. These types of plans will usually be available for a higher monthly premium and may not be available in all regions.





# COMPARE TO 72 YEAR OLD WIDOW

- Advisor
- Community
- Learning

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## Medicaid Advice Centre > Welcome!

The Medicaid Advisor can help make the process of finding a medicaid plan simple. By using the advisor that you best relate to, follow his advice to find the best plans available to match your needs

## Find the Advisor that is right for you

James Brown MD

(1) Listen

Lian Tailor, Administrator

(4) Listen

I have been a general physician for over 30 years and know how difficult choosing a medicaid plan can be. I can leverage my experience and background to help you find an appropriate medicaid plan for your needs.

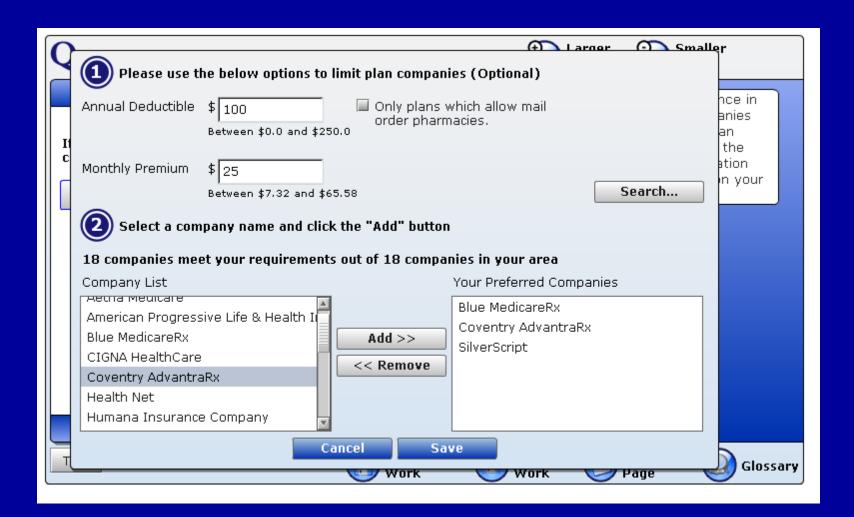
I can take you through all the details of Medicaid and help you make a decision based on all the facts. Based on the my 20 years of experience in medicare administration, I can help you choose the right plan.

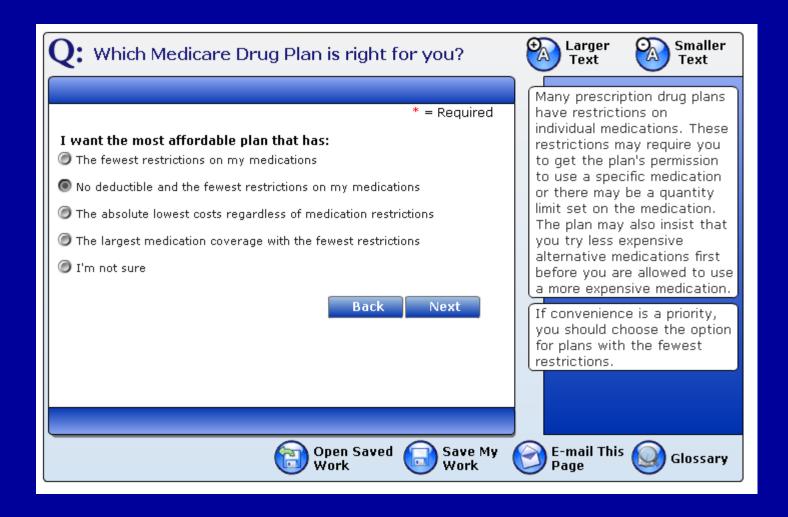
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Terms and Conditions

Privacy policy





## Q: Which Medicare Drug Plan is right for you?



Recommendation



Smaller Text

## Plan Results Plans 1-6 of 6 Plan Name Annual Monthly Details Compare Premium Cost $\checkmark$ SilverScript \$714 \$24.67 SilverScript $\leq$ Coventry \$755 \$42.89 AdvantraRx AdvantraRx Premier Plus Coventry \$969 \$29.74 AdvantraRx AdvantraRx Dramiar



## SilverScript

ENROLL

Provider: SilverScript

Monthly Premium: \$24.67 Deductible: \$250.00

Top 100 Drugs

92

Covered:



Test



Preferences

Return to the Ouestions



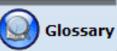
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## Advocacy

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## Medicaid Learning Centre >

Want to learn more about Medicaid? Here you will find everything you need, including descriptions of Medicaid Plans, the latest ratings, and links to other sites for more resources:

## The Background and Basics of Medicare Part



The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act was passed on December 8, 2003. It established a voluntary drug benefit for Medicare beneficiaries and created a new Medicare Part D. Simply put, the Medicare Modernization Act and the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement feature gives elderly and disabled people already on Medicare (that is, eligible for Medicare) access to drug coverage beginning in January of 2006.

## What are the Details of the Medicare Part D Program?



In general, Medicare prescription drug plans provide insurance coverage for your prescription drugs. If you join the Medicare Part D there will be a monthly premium ranging from only a few dollars Prescription costs will vary depending on the particular drug plan you choose. However, the majority of plans do not have the initial deductible and provide "first dollar" coverage. \* In the model plans, after the deductible is met (the insured has paid the first \$250), Medicare will pay 75% of the covered prescription costs up to \$2000. In many/most plans, prescription drugs are arranged in "tiers" are assigned a fixed dollar value based on the tier. This is meant as Co-payment. \* After the \$2000, the insured person pays the 100% of the next \$2850. This is the so called "donut hole" or Coverage Gap. Some plans will provide coverage through the "donut hole", at an additional monthly premium.

## Advocacy

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## Resources

## Discuss and get feedback on medicaid here >

## **Discussion Board**

## Medicaid Providers



## Subject

THESE PROVIDERS ARE GREAT >
HUMANA IS SO COMPLICATED >
I LOVE UNITED >
BLUE MEDICARE IS TOO COMPLICATED >

Post a message ▶

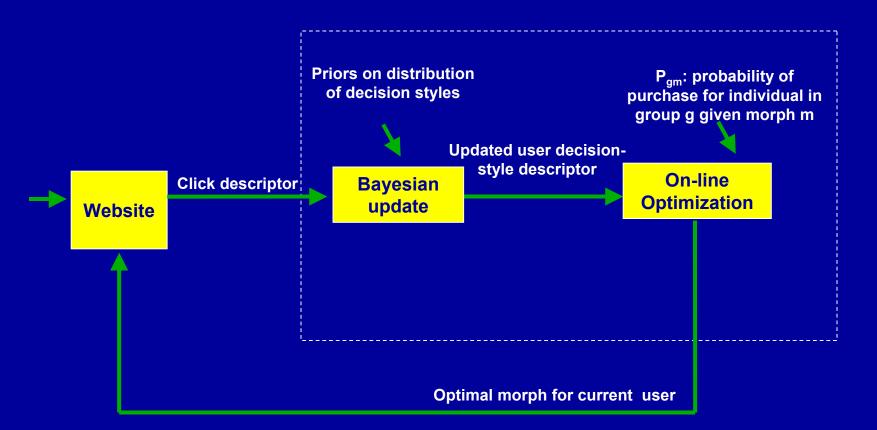
## Donut Hole Coverage



## Subject

WHAT IS THE DONUT HOLE >
ALL QUESTIONS ANSWERED >
DONUT HOLE? >
Post a message ▶

## **Morphing Analysis**



## SUMMARY

- Customer Power Growing
- Time for Advocacy Strategy
- Trust and Advocacy Can Be Useful in Health Services
- Research Underway to Morph to Cognitive Style – Interested?