



# MONEY-SAVING TIPS FOR MEDICATIONS



# 1

## KNOW YOUR COVERAGE

Call your insurance company or look at the benefits summary. Important information: Deductible amount, copay amount, and preferred pharmacies. When considering new plans, be sure to check for your medications on the Drug Formulary list (Covered Medications)!

# 2

## START A CONVERSATION

Let us know your concerns about cost so that we can discuss options together. We can also connect you to programs that provide assistance.

# 3

## COMPARE PRICES

Look for your medication(s) on the pharmacy's \$4 generic medication list. Search price comparison sites to find the best cash or coupon price.

GoodRx.com  
NeedyMeds.org  
EasyDrugCard.com

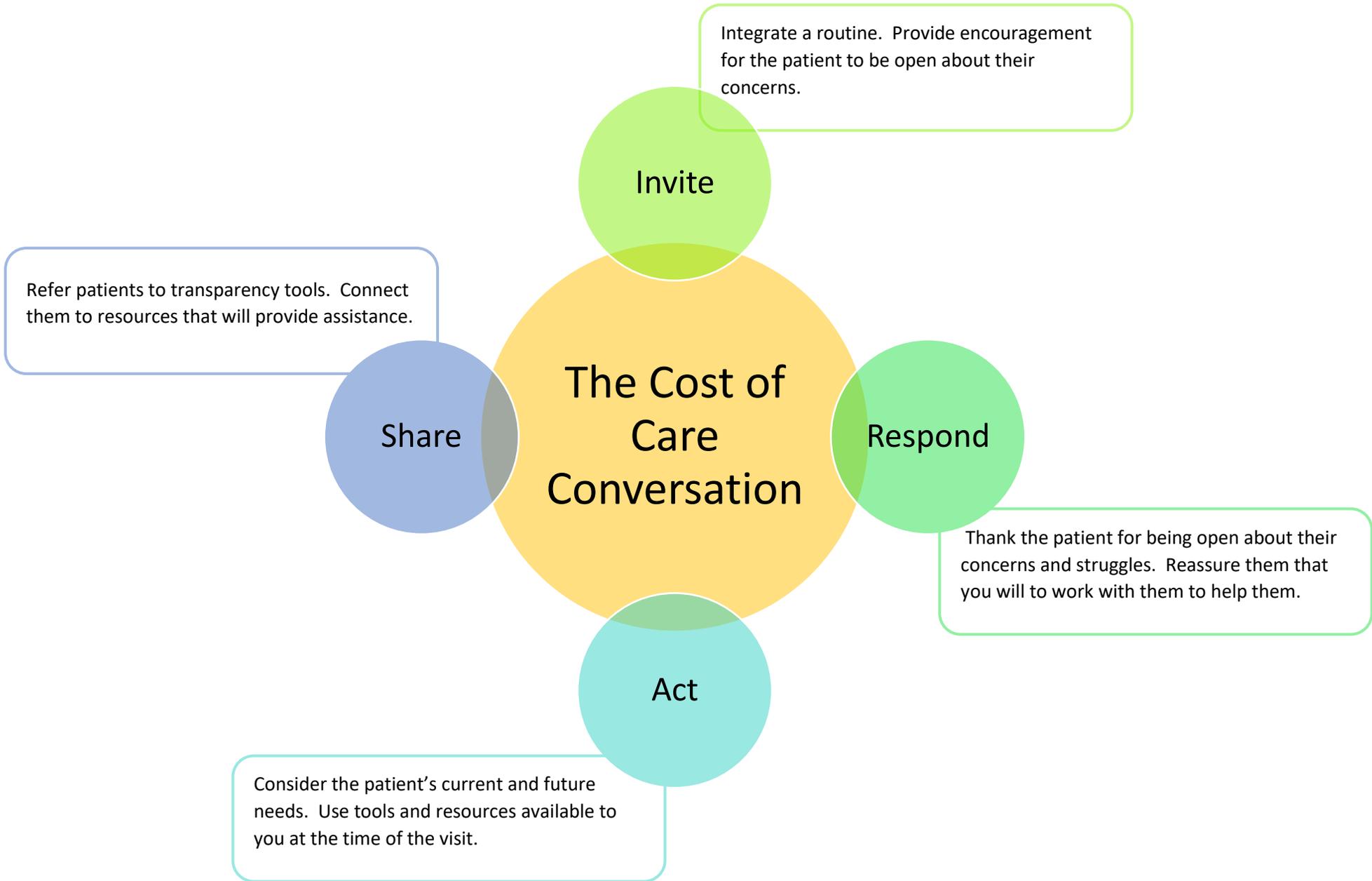
# 4

## ASK THE PHARMACIST

You have options! Ask about lowering costs every time. Request prices for your medications for multiple payment types: with insurance, cash or with a discount card.

### When Should I Shop For Discounts That Don't Use My Insurance Coverage?

- ✓ When you will not spend more than your insurance deductible this year.
- ✓ When there is a change in your insurance coverage for a medication that you take.
- ✓ When you have reached the Medicare Coverage Gap and will not meet the spending amount to get out of the Gap.
- ✓ When you do not have insurance.
- ✓ When a discount price is less than your copay.



## Cost Conversations - Medications

	INVITE	RESPOND	ACT	SHARE
<b>Do</b>	<p>Integrate a routine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give medication list at check-in for patient to update.<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Give a pre-visit medication use questionnaire at check-in. Address during the visit.<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Ask more than if they are taking their medications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the pre-visit questionnaire.</li> <li>• Review the patient's changes to their medication list.</li> <li>• Communicate concerns between the MA/Nurse and the Physician.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer patients to tools when they: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- know they won't reach their deductible</li> <li>- don't have insurance</li> <li>- are in the donut hole and don't expect to reach catastrophic coverage</li> <li>- have changes to drug coverage</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Refer to a formulary when prescribing a new medication.</li> <li>• In dire situations, prioritize medications.</li> <li>• Perform a Drug Utilization Review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine a person that can provide further information and assistance for the patient.</li> <li>• Compile a list of resources related to Prescription Assistance.</li> </ul>
<b>Say</b>	<p>"Many people have trouble [filling or] taking their medications on a regular basis. Do you find this is the case for any of your medications?"<sup>1</sup></p> <p>When was the last time you took "x"? (x = each medication)</p> <p>I know it can be difficult to take all of these medications regularly. What gets in the way of taking your medications?</p>	<p>"Thank you for telling my staff that you are not taking the medicines I prescribed last time. Let's talk about why that is."<sup>1</sup></p> <p>"Testing is expensive, Are you testing less often to try and conserve supplies?"</p>	<p>"Let's discuss some different options and the pros and cons of each..."<sup>2</sup></p> <p>"We talked about a lot today! Here is information about (quick summary) for you to have at home."</p> <p>"Sometimes we can cut pills in half to help with cost or keep it as a single, whole pill to make it easier. How would you prefer to take your medications?"</p>	<p>"It's important to me that we address these concerns. I would like to connect you with the best person to assist you. Would that be ok?"</p>
<b>Use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">AMA Steps Forward Medication Adherence Module</a> for staff training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs of Care Value Conversations Models for staff training</li> </ul>	<p>Look up coverage for current or new medications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EHR formulary</li> <li>• App: Formularylookup.com</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">State Health Insurance Program Assistance (Medicare)</a></li> <li>• \$4 Generic List</li> <li>• Price Comparison Tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Commercial Insurances</li> <li>○ GoodRx</li> <li>○ NeedyMeds.org</li> <li>○ EasyDrugCard.com</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Give</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A list of medications and/or a pre-visit questionnaire to the patient.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reassurance that you will address this concern together.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicare Coverage Gap Handout</li> <li>• Money Saving Tips Handout</li> <li>• A plan of action if the prescription is too expensive (<i>i.e. an OTC substitute or backup prescription</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A name and contact for assistance.</li> <li>• A handout explaining resources.</li> </ul>

1. AMA Recommendation    2. ACP Recommendation