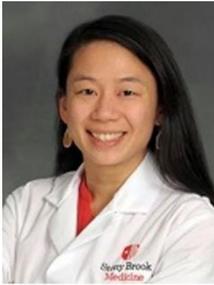


Biomedical Informatics Grand Rounds
Wednesday, February 16th, 2022 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Unaffordable Prescription Drug Costs in the US: The Role of Real Time Prescription Benefits



Rachel Wong, MD, MPH, MBA
Assistant Professor, Renaissance School of Medicine
Stony Brook

Remote Access

Join Zoom Meeting <https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/95617197636?pwd=KytzZ2pVRG9SZGpKZUtpNXJISjNjZz09>
Meeting ID: 956 1719 7636 Passcode: 924293

Bio: Rachel Wong is primary care internist at the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook, where she is currently pursuing a fellowship in Clinical Informatics. Her expertise is in graduate medical education, quality improvement and primary care education. Her current research interests include the use of large databases to study the interactions between COVID-19 and diabetes, as well as the impact of new technologies such as real time prescription benefits tools.

Abstract: High drug costs in the U.S. negatively impact medication adherence and clinical outcomes. Although providers are often aware of the financial burden of care, the system of prescription drug price sharing is complex and it is difficult to estimate patient out-of-pocket costs at the point of prescription. Evidence has shown that decision support with formulary or cost information can change prescribing behavior and reduce costs. To increase medication price transparency, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have mandated that all Medicare Part D sponsors implement real-time prescription benefit (RTPB) tools capable of integrating with at least one e-prescribing system or electronic health record (EHR) beginning in January 2021. RTPB tools retrieve cost information, coverage restrictions and therapeutic and/or pharmacy alternatives and display them to providers at the point of prescription. As RTPBs are a relatively new technology, there is little evidence of what their impact will be on patients, providers and health systems. In this talk, we will discuss the role of RTPBs in promoting price transparency and the multiple factors in the adoption of RTPBs that may affect their efficacy, including RTPB patient coverage, local implementation decisions and prescriber use.

Educational Objects: Upon completion, participants should be able to:

- Gain basic understanding of the complex system of drug pricing in the US and downstream adverse outcomes related to unaffordable prescription drug costs.
- Become familiar with the current tools that clinicians use to evaluate cost in medical decision-making and learn about new real-time prescription benefit (RTPB) tools.
- Understand the factors in the adoption of RTPBs that may affect their efficacy, including RTPB patient coverage, local implementation decisions and prescriber use.
- Discuss outcomes that are important to future studies for relevant stakeholders.

Disclosure Statement: The faculty and planners have no relevant financial relationship with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing health care products used by or on patients.

Continuing Medical Education Credits: The School of Medicine, State University of New York at Stony Brook, is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The School of Medicine, State University of New York at Stony Brook designates this live activity for a maximum of **1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.