# Concepts in Managed Care Pharmacy

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AMCP Concepts in Managed Care Pharmacy is a series of papers written to explain managed care pharmacy terms in plain English, and clearly and concisely describe how these concepts are implemented in the managed care setting.

## Disease Management

Disease management is the concept of reducing health care costs and improving quality of life for individuals with chronic conditions by preventing or minimizing the effects of the disease through integrated care.

## Drug Utilization Review

Drug utilization review (DUR) is defined as an authorized, structured, ongoing review of prescribing, dispensing and use of medication.

## Electronic Prescribing

E-prescribing is the use of health care technology to improve prescription accuracy, increase patient safety, and reduce costs as well as enable secure, real-time, bi-directional, electronic connectivity between clinicians and pharmacies.

## Formulary Management

Formulary management is an integrated patient care process which enables physicians, pharmacists and other health care professionals to work together to promote clinically sound, cost-effective medication therapy and positive therapeutic outcomes.

## Maintaining the Affordability of the Prescription Drug Benefit

The purpose of this paper is to explain how managed care organizations (MCOs) are able to secure lower drug prices from pharmaceutical manufacturers.

## Medication Errors

Medication errors are among the most common medical errors, harming at least 1.5 million people every year.

## Medication Stockpiling

AMCP is concerned about the harmful effects that medication stockpiling could have on individual patients as well as the population as a whole.

### Outcomes Research

Outcomes research is a facet of research that measures results of various medical treatments and/or interventions in patient populations.

### Patient Confidentiality

Patient Confidentiality Congress passed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) in 1996.

### Population Health Management

This resource provides an overview of population health management and its application within current models of care.

### Prior Authorization

Implementation of a well-designed prior authorization program optimizes patient outcomes by ensuring that patients receive the most appropriate medications while reducing waste, error and unnecessary prescription drug use.

### Specialty Pharmaceuticals

Over the past several years, utilization and cost of specialty pharmacy products have been increasing at a rate substantially greater than that of other pharmaceuticals.