



Iowa Prescription Drug Donation Repository Q & A Document

What is the history of the program?

The implementation of the Iowa Prescription Drug Donation Repository (PDDR) was allowed in 2005 by passage of House File 724 in the Iowa State Legislature. The program is overseen by the Iowa Department of Public Health in cooperation with the Iowa Board of Pharmacy Examiners. The Iowa Prescription Drug Corporation (IPDC), a not for profit entity, was awarded the contract to administer the program in November, 2006. The program officially began operations on May 16, 2007 following a 3-month pilot.

What is the purpose of the program?

To improve the health of low-income Iowans by authorizing medical facilities and pharmacies to re-dispense prescription drugs and supplies that would otherwise be destroyed.

What medications may be donated?

Any medication, except for controlled substances, may be donated if:

1. It's sealed in its original, tamper-evident packaging. A single, unit-dose or blister pack with the outside packaging opened may be accepted if its packaging remains intact.
2. It bears an expiration date that is more than six months after the date the medication was donated.

Where do the donations come from?

The majority of donations, to date, have come from long-term care (LTC) pharmacy providers who dispense medications in sealed unit-dose systems. Other donation sources include physician medication samples and private individuals with sealed or unit-dose medications.

What about safety?

All LTC medications are under the continuous control of a health care professional. Once they arrive at IPDC, they are verified by a licensed pharmacist for accuracy (the medication name on the product matches what the product actually is). Medications are also scrutinized for integrity and proper expiration dating. Any questionable medications are discarded prior to going into IPDC inventory. Safety and quality are of utmost concern at all times.

Who is eligible to receive medications from the repository?

Patients who fall below 200% of the federal poverty level or who are uninsured or underinsured are eligible. Other patients may be eligible to receive medications as well.

Where will donated medications be re-dispensed?

Pharmacies and medical facilities (as defined by administrative rules) with authority to dispense may re-dispense donated medications. Free clinics and rural health clinics are two examples of such facilities.

As a registered pharmacy or medical facility, what is required of me?

There are some very basic recordkeeping requirements for the program which are required to be submitted to IPDC on a quarterly basis.

Is there any charge for these re-dispensed medications?

There is no charge for the medication itself, but pharmacies and medical facilities may charge up to twice the Medicaid professional dispensing fee to cover their professional services.

How many donations has the program received since it started?

For the time period of March 2007 through December 2007, the repository has received donations of almost 319,000 dosage units worth an estimated value of \$292,000.

How many dosage units has the program shipped to participating entities?

For the time period of March 2007 through December 2007, the repository has shipped almost 142,000 dosage units worth an estimated \$150,000 to program participants. These medications are going to patients who might otherwise be unable to get them.

How are the value of the medications and supplies handled by the program determined?

The value is determined by using typical “cash” pricing such as that from drugstore.com. Average wholesale price, which is often greatly inflated, is not utilized for these estimations.

How can I participate?

Pharmacies and medical facilities must register as a local repository after which they may obtain medications from IPDC.

Patients seen at a participating provider may receive medications after completing a patient intake form to determine their eligibility. If eligible, patients receive a card identifying their qualification for the program for future visits.

How can I learn more?

Contact the Iowa Prescription Drug Corporation at (515) 327-5405 or 1 (866) 282-5817 or visit our web site at www.iowapdc.org.