

VETOES

~~(2) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DEVELOPED UNDER § 15 124 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE MARYLAND PHARMACY DISCOUNT PROGRAM DEVELOPED UNDER § 15 124.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, AND ANY OTHER PHARMACY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT.~~

~~(B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ESTABLISH PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS OR RESTRICT COVERAGE FOR DRUGS USED TO TREAT MENTAL ILLNESS AND BRAIN DISORDERS, INCLUDING:~~

- ~~(1) ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTIC MEDICATIONS;~~
- ~~(2) CONVENTIONAL ANTIPSYCHOTIC MEDICATIONS;~~
- ~~(3) ACTIVE SEROTONIN RE UPTAKE INHIBITORS;~~
- ~~(4) ATYPICAL ANTIDEPRESSANTS; AND~~
- ~~(5) DRUGS TO TREAT EPILEPSY AND OTHER CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM BRAIN DISORDERS.~~

~~(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER:~~

~~(1) IMPLEMENTATION OF A QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ON PSYCHIATRIC DRUG COSTS THAT ADDRESSES POLYPHARMACY AND PRESCRIBING PATTERNS; AND~~

~~(2) PHYSICIAN EDUCATION INITIATIVES ON PSYCHIATRIC DRUG COSTS, INCLUDING AN ANNUAL CIRCULATION OF A DRUG PRICING LIST TO PHYSICIANS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM.~~

~~15 124.~~

~~(a) (1) The Department shall maintain a Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program for low income individuals whose:~~

~~(i) Assets are not more than 1.5 times the amount of accountable resources according to the asset schedule of the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; and~~

~~(ii) Gross annual income does not exceed:~~

~~1. \$4,600 plus \$500 for each individual over 1 in a family unit; and~~

~~2. An annual increase set by the Secretary under paragraph (2)(ii)4 of this subsection.~~

~~(2) (i) 1. In this paragraph the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~2. "Income disregard" means the exclusion of up to \$1,000 of annual income earned by an individual as a client of a sheltered workshop if the individual's sole other income is derived from a Social Security payment.~~