

# 340B in Action at UnityPoint Health®

The 340B Drug Pricing Program serves patients in Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin at 33 locations and 141 contract pharmacy sites.

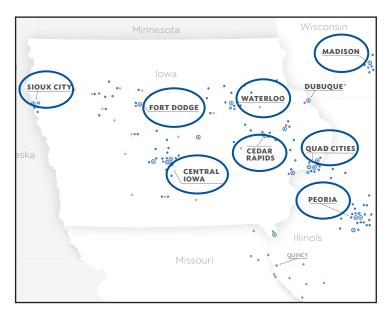
#### Preserve Access to Low-Cost Medications for Vulnerable Patients

As one of the largest non-profit, non-denominational health systems in the country, the UnityPoint Health network of Disproportionate Share Hospitals, Sole Community Hospitals, Critical Access Hospitals and Rural Health Clinics provide vital access to healthcare services. The 340B Drug Pricing Program has served as a critical federal resource for our safety-net providers and the patients we serve in Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin.

UnityPoint Health **OPPOSES** any efforts to redirect resources from or place moratoriums on safety-net providers, but **SUPPORTS** initiatives to strengthen manufacturer and covered-entity transparency.

### 12 Participating UnityPoint Health Hospitals:

- Allen Hospital Waterloo, IA
- Iowa Lutheran Hospital Des Moines, IA
- Iowa Methodist Medical Center Des Moines, IA
- Jones Regional Medical Center Anamosa, IA
- Meriter Hospital Madison, WI
- Methodist Hospital Peoria, IL
- St. Luke's Hospital Cedar Rapids, IA
- St Luke's Regional Medical Center Sioux City, IA
- Trinity Medical Center Bettendorf, IA
- Trinity Medical Center Muscatine, IA
- Trinity Medical Center Rock Island, IL
- Trinity Regional Medical Center Fort Dodge, IA



66 340B makes a difference by allowing our providers to address the individualized needs of the people we serve in meaningful ways.

- Kevin Vermeer, President and Chief Executive Officer, UnityPoint Health

## For more information, contact:



Sabra Rosener, JD Vice President, Government & External Affairs (515) 205-1206 sabra.rosener@unitypoint.org

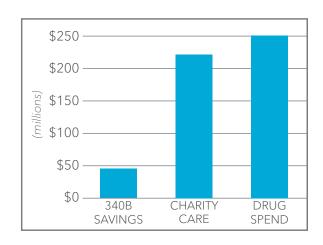


## The Positive Impact of 340B

## **Financial Impact**

In 2017, the 340B Drug Pricing Program resulted in significant savings for the people and communities served by UnityPoint Health:

- \$49.9 million in 340B savings at UnityPoint Health
- \$222 million in total uncompensated care
- \$250 million in total drug spend without 340B discounts



## **Community Impact**

### **Public Emergency Response**

In the spring of 2018, at least 150 people were poisoned in Illinois - more than 83 people in the Peoria area - and four people died. The culprit was tainted synthetic cannabinoid, known as K<sub>2</sub> or Spice, that was laced with a long-acting coumarin derivative. Many victims were hospitalized for internal bleeding as well as blood coming from the ears, eyes and mouth associated with brodifacoum. Treatment involves managing and building up the blood clotting function with high-dose vitamin K, at costs exceeding \$50,000 for a month's supply. Once stabilized, uninsured patients were faced with continued hospitalization to maintain the pricey drug regime. The 340B Program enabled UnityPoint Health - Methodist Hospital in Peoria to discharge 47 impacted patients to home with supplies of high-dose vitamin K for \$17 per week, instead of \$13,000 per week. In a period of two months, more than \$1.7 million worth of supplies were provided.

## **Improved Access**

Fort Dodge, Iowa, a community of roughly 24,000 residents, is served by UnityPoint Health - Trinity Regional Medical Center, a Sole Community Hospital and Rural Referral Center. There are no 24-hour pharmacies in Fort Dodge and weekend hours are limited. The 340B Program has funded an InstyMeds dispenser, which is an automated system much like a bank ATM, that dispenses prescription medications directly to patients 24 hours per day. Located in the Emergency Department, more than 5,600 prescriptions have been dispensed via InstyMeds over the past two years. Of these prescriptions, more than 800 or 14% were provided to patients at no cost through the Compassion Care Rx program. The 340B program has not only enabled timely community-wide access to prescriptions in Fort Dodge, but an average of one prescription per day has been delivered to vulnerable individuals under the Compassion Care Rx program.

#### Chronic Care Outreach

UnityPoint Clinic physicians noticed that high drug costs for patients with chronic conditions often resulted in patients stopping their medications. Ongoing drug regimens are particularly important for managing diabetes, congestive heart failure and pulmonary conditions. Despite understanding the health benefits of taking medications, individuals who are uninsured, lack drug coverage or reach the Medicare "donut hole" are more likely to stop filling their prescriptions. *UnityPoint Health - Methodist Hospital in Peoria has established special hospital clinics for patients with large ongoing out-of-pocket medication costs. They have worked with a 340B contract pharmacy to provide virtual insurance that enables them to receive discounted pricing.* For diabetic patients, cost savings can be hundreds of dollars per prescription. *For example, Levemir is provided for \$16.50 rather than \$500. More importantly, patients are remaining on their prescribed medications.* The first clinic was piloted with diabetic patients, and a pulmonary clinic is scheduled to start in July.