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To whom it may concern:

I am old enough to remember when Chain Stores came on the scene. Independents formed buying groups to get better pricing and to level the playing field against the buying power of large chains. Now I face adjudication through, CVS and my computer tells me when I get paid below my actual cost (which happens many times each day). CVS and its PBM'S are taking such a large piece of the pie that my reimbursement is many times below my acquisition cost. I have no where to turn. PBM'S also prohibit me to mail prescriptions to my senior citizens (though they can do it). Ask the state Pharmacy Associations what is going on. Transparency is talked about but in my mind non-existent.

In conclusion, I believe my pharmacy and Independents actually save money for the patients while CVS and Aetna get paid for rebates and have questionable pricing practices and steer people to their own mail order business by price incentives (they prohibit me from giving a 90 day supply and if I can give a 30 or 90 day supply it is most times cheaper to use "their mail order".

Joseph Bettinger R.Ph.

Pharmacy Owner for almost 20 years