

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICIAL CODE
TITLE 48. FOOD AND DRUGS
SUBTITLE II. PRESCRIPTION DRUGS
CHAPTER 8. PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICE INFORMATION

SUBCHAPTER I. PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICE POSTING

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SUBCHAPTER I. PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICE POSTING

§ 48-801.01. List of most commonly used prescription drugs

Thirty days prior to each issue date, the Department of Human Services shall furnish to the Office of Consumer Protection a list of the 100 most commonly used prescription drugs.

§ 48-801.02. Posters to be furnished pharmacies; contents

Ten days prior to each issue date, the Office of Consumer Protection shall furnish to each pharmacy in the District a poster suitable for display of a type style and size so as to be easily readable at a reasonable distance, which:

- (1) Lists the 100 most commonly used prescription drugs in 2 commonly prescribed quantities, with space for the current selling price of each quantity;
- (2) Lists professional and convenience services, with space for each pharmacy to indicate:
 - (A) Whether it offers each service; and
 - (B) The additional charge, if any, for that service;
- (3) Contains a heading stating "OUR CURRENT PRESCRIPTION PRICES" and containing spaces for the insertion of the name and address of each pharmacy;

(4) Indicates in simple language that:

(A) The price of a prescription drug is often different at different pharmacies, and that the consumer may want to make a comparison on the cost of a prescription;

(B) The pharmacy may be able to substitute a less expensive drug which is therapeutically equivalent to the one prescribed by the consumer's doctor, unless the consumer does not approve; and

(C) The consumer has the right to know the exact price of a prescription before it is filled; and

(5) Provides space for each pharmacy to indicate the eligibility and terms of any discount it offers on legend drugs.

§ 48-801.03. Completion and display of posters

On and after each issue date, each pharmacy shall legibly post on the poster its current selling prices for the 100 most commonly used prescription drugs, the professional and convenience services it offers and the additional charges therefor, and the eligibility and terms of any discount it offers on prescription drugs. The completed poster shall be displayed prominently in the immediate vicinity of the prescription drug service area in such a manner as to be easily visible to consumers without having to obtain permission or assistance of an employee of the pharmacy.

§ 48-801.04. Quotation of prices, services and charges

The current selling price of all prescription drugs (including those not required to be posted) dispensed by each pharmacy, and the pharmacy's discounts and professional and convenience services and charges therefor, shall be available and be quoted, correctly and free of charge, by the pharmacy upon request identifying the name, strength, and quantity prescribed by a physician, whether the request is made in person, in writing or by telephone.

§ 48-801.05. Services and drugs to be furnished at prices posted; exception

No pharmacy may fail to provide to any consumer the discounts and services stated on the poster, under the eligibility, price, and other terms there stated. Every sale of one of the 100 most commonly used prescription drugs, in a quantity and strength which requires the price of the drug to be posted, shall be at the posted price, unless a decrease in price is authorized by subchapter III of this chapter.

§ 48-801.06. Consumer information to reflect actual charges

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A pharmacy may charge any current selling price, discount, service availability or service charge, at any time; provided, that the poster and sources of consumer information are adjusted accordingly.