

# Drug Deals and the IRA

SEAC Fall 2024

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## Caveats and Limitations

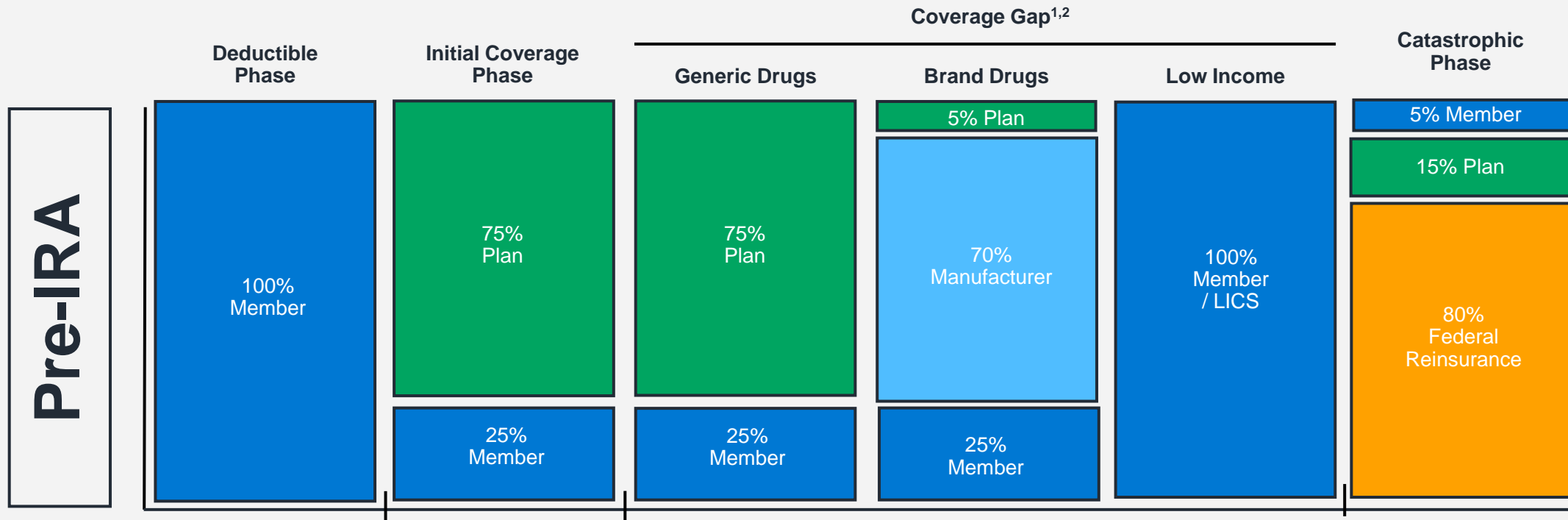
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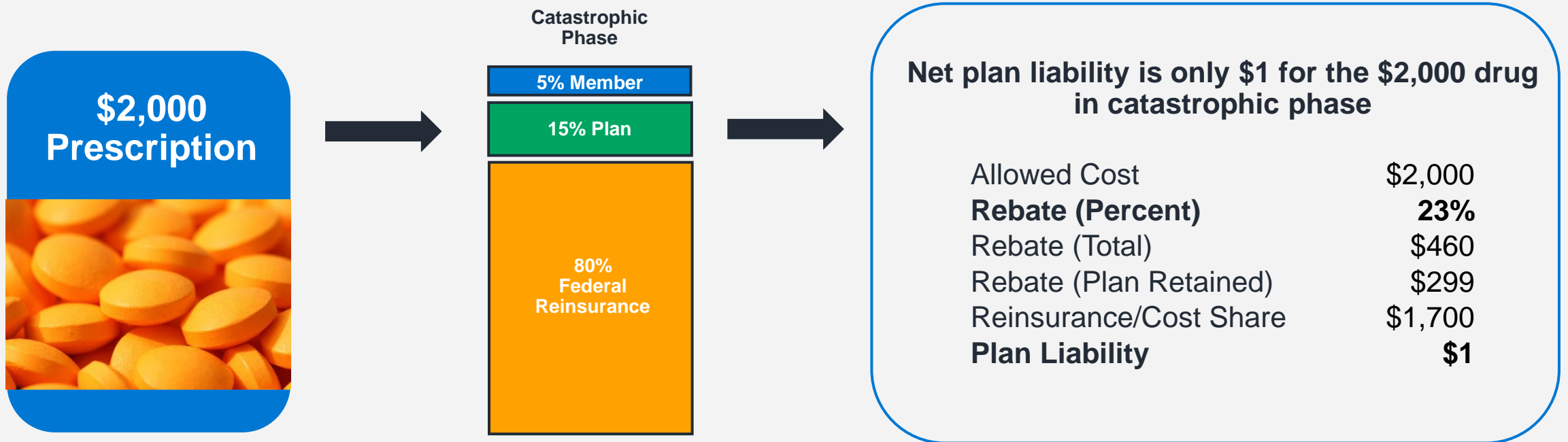
# Medicare Part D Defined Standard Benefit (pre-2024)

- **Plan** liability is a small share of total drug costs
- **Government** pays majority of high-cost therapies
- No maximum out-of-pocket for **patients**
- **Pharma** liability limited to coverage gap and non low income beneficiaries



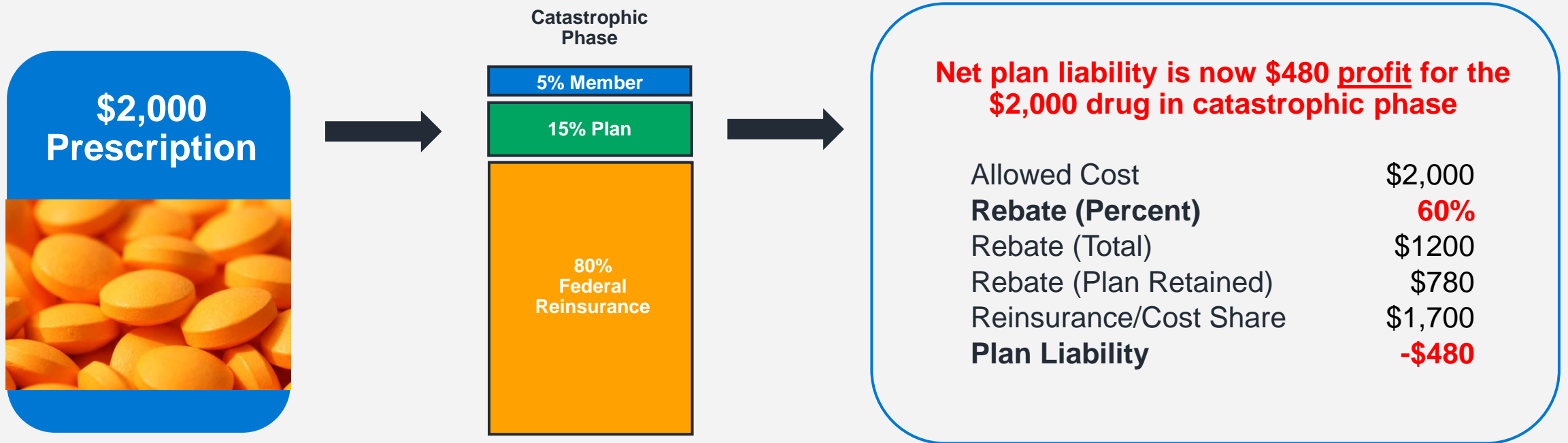
# Part D Plan Liability for High-Cost Brand Drugs (pre-2024)

Manufacturer rebates offset plan's limited liability for brands



# Part D Plan Liability for High-Cost Brand Drugs (pre-2024)

High manufacturer rebates can make plans favor brands financially



## More rebates, please!

### Negotiation between PBMs and Manufacturers

- Leverage volume and formulary placement in exchange for more rebates
- High WAC prices with large rebates preferred
- Rebated brands can compete with generics
- Plans leverage rebates to lower premiums

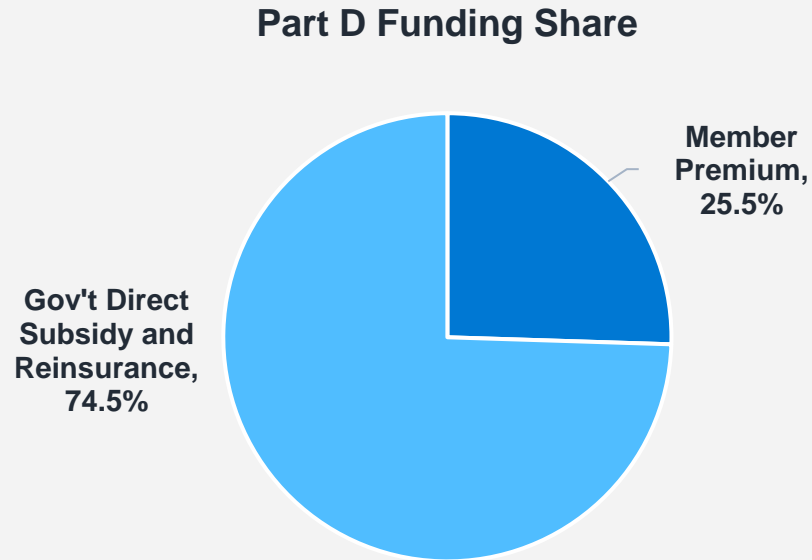


# Part D Financing

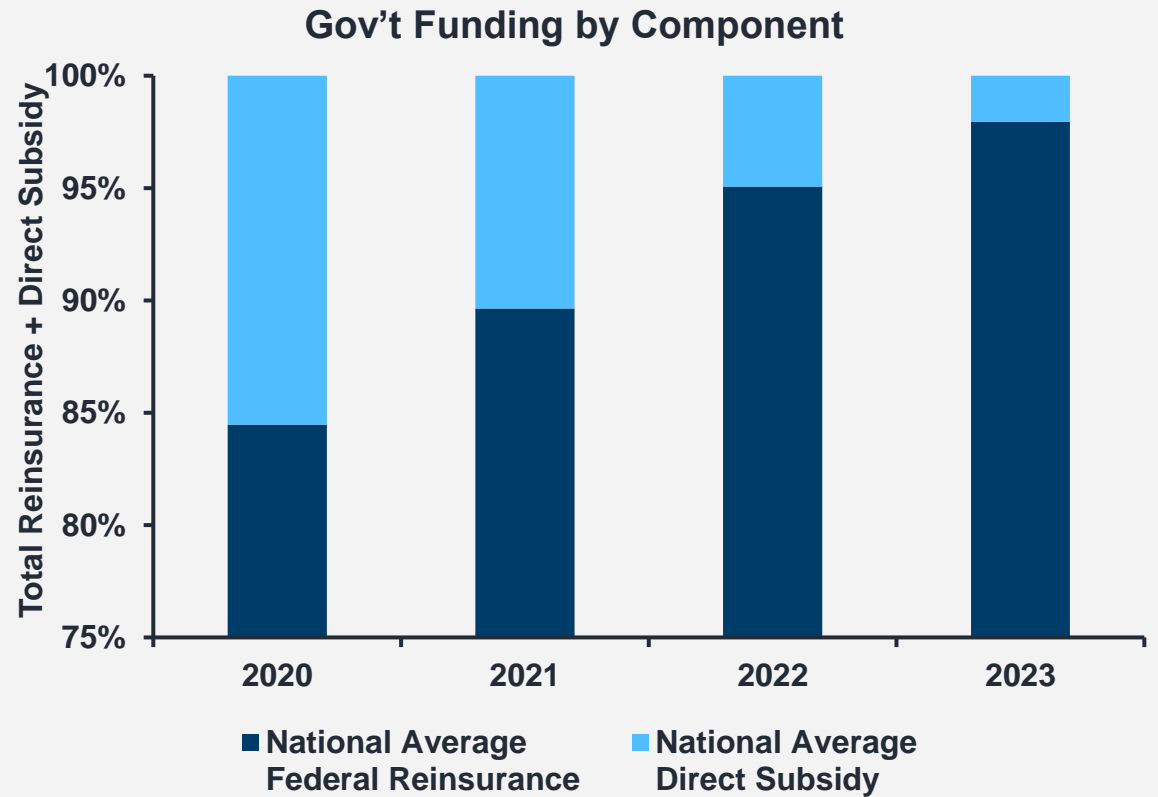
Government pays plans a risk adjusted direct subsidy in addition to paying federal reinsurance

Direct subsidy based on competitive bids targets 74.5% gov't share (before additional gov't subsidies)

**Pre-IRA trends: Federal Reinsurance Increasing, Direct Subsidy Decreasing**



Additional government funding of risk corridors, low-income subsidies, BBP cap, and PDP push actual share much higher than 74.5%.



# Along comes the IRA

(Inflation Reduction Act)



# IRA Redesigned Medicare Part D Defined Standard Benefit



Share of costs shift in 2025 due to IRA changes

- **Patient** cost **down**
- **Government** cost **down**
- **Payer** cost **up**
- **Manufacturer** cost **up**

## Key changes

- Plan share in catastrophic increases to 60%
- Gov't reinsurance decreases
- Manufacturer discount in catastrophic
- Maximum out of pocket
- Elimination of gap

1 NLI and LI beneficiaries have different benefit design in coverage gap. Drug type specific benefit design reflects NLI beneficiaries  
 2 Both member and manufacturer liability accumulate toward True Out-of-Pocket (TrOOP)  
 3 Estimated catastrophic coverage limit corresponding to True Out-of-Pocket (TrOOP) spending of \$8,000 (~92% of spend = brand)  
 4 Part D MOOP = Maximum Out-of-Pocket. \$2,000 for 2025

## Part D Plan Liability for High-Cost Brand Drugs (post-2025)

Higher plan liability means more rebates needed to make plan whole

**A much higher rebate is needed in 2025 for plans to breakeven on brand drugs**

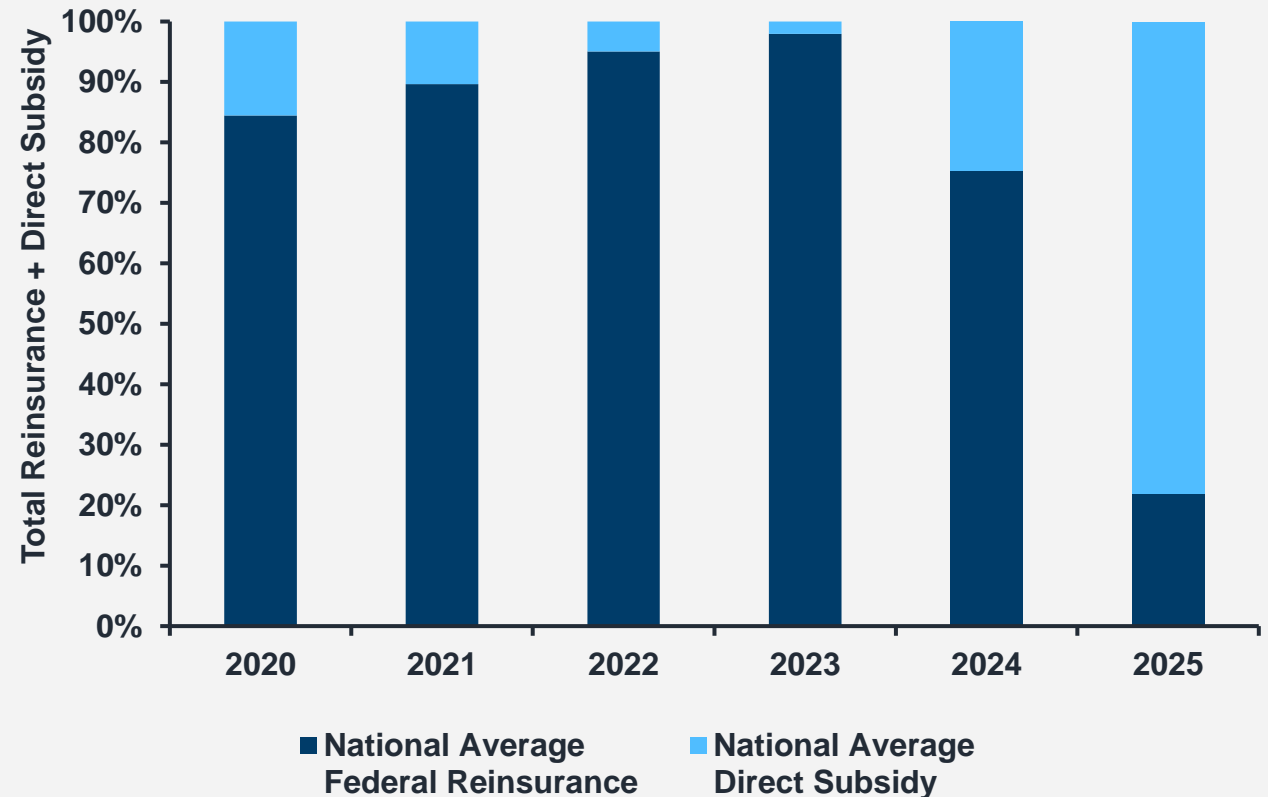
### Net plan liability of \$2,000 script in catastrophic phase by year

|                        | 2023       | 2024         | 2025         | 2025 Breakeven |
|------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Allowed Cost           | \$2,000    | \$2,000      | \$2,000      | \$2,000        |
| Rebate (Percent)       | <b>23%</b> | 23%          | 23%          | <b>71%</b>     |
| Rebate (Total)         | \$460      | \$460        | \$460        | \$1,410        |
| Rebate (Plan Retained) | \$299      | \$299        | \$391        | \$1,199        |
| Reinsurance/Cost Share | \$1,700    | \$1,600      | \$800        | \$800          |
| <b>Plan Liability</b>  | <b>\$1</b> | <b>\$101</b> | <b>\$809</b> | <b>\$2</b>     |

# Shift in Federal Subsidy Allocation

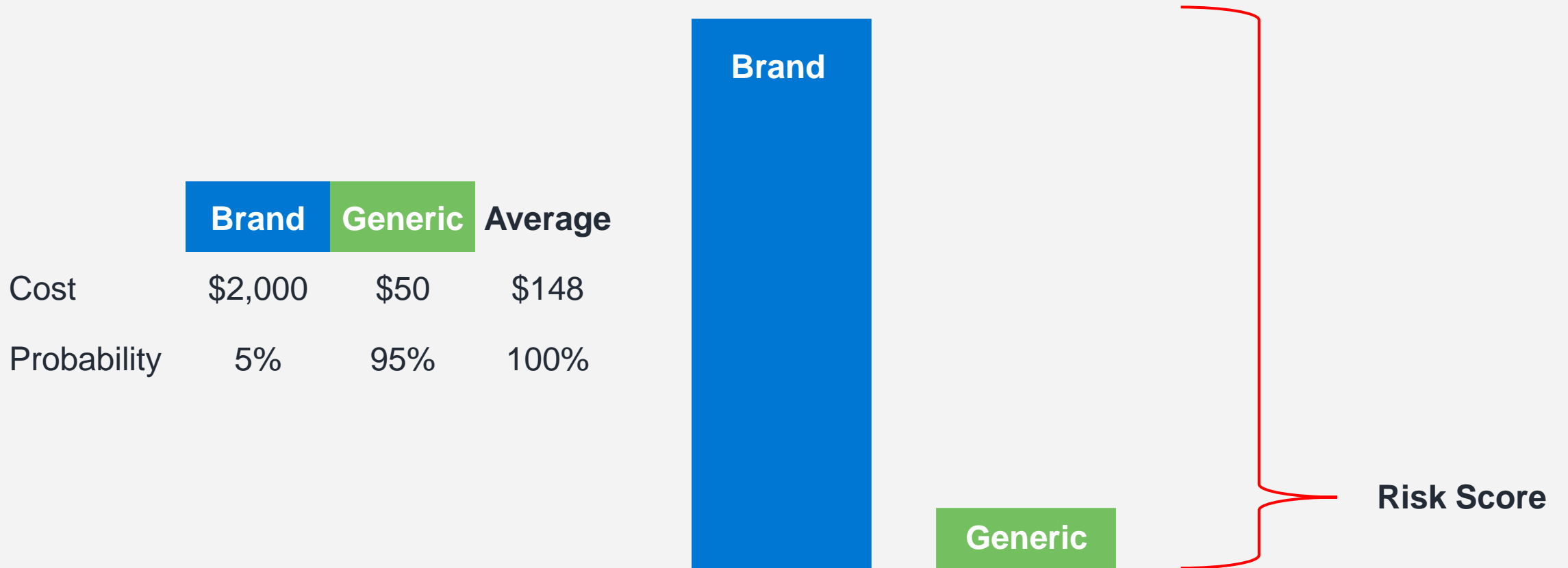
Federal government funding of Part D shifts to risk-adjusted Direct Subsidy payments in 2025

- Pre-IRA trends reversed
- Federal reinsurance shrinks
- Direct Subsidy becomes largest gov't outlay
- More risk shared with plans



# Risk Adjustment

Average payments underfund users of high-cost therapies



# Selection Matters

Population mix can drive plan financial results

|                  | <b>Brand</b><br><b>\$2,000</b> | <b>Generic</b><br><b>\$50</b> | <b>Total</b><br><b>Cost</b> |   |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Total Population | 5%                             | 95%                           | \$148                       | Risk score calibrated to total population |
| High-Cost Plan   | 10%                            | 90%                           | \$245                       | High-Cost plan underfunded                |
| Low-Cost Plan    | 2%                             | 98%                           | \$89                        | Low-Cost plan overfunded                  |

# Medicare Plan Finder

Plan ranking can drive health plan adverse selection

Medicare.gov

## BlueMedicare Complete Rx (PDP)

Florida Blue | Plan ID: S5904-002-0

Star rating: ★★☆☆☆

MONTHLY PREMIUM

**\$167.00** Includes: Only drug coverage

TOTAL DRUG & PREMIUM COST (for 2025)

**\$3,563.04** Retail pharmacy: Estimated total drug + premium

Shoppers can enter drug costs and plans are ranked by total out-of-pocket spend. Plans covering high-cost drugs more likely to be selected by unprofitable utilizers.

## AARP Medicare Rx Preferred from UHC (PDP)

UnitedHealthcare | Plan ID: S5921-383-0

Star rating: ★★☆☆☆

MONTHLY PREMIUM

**\$92.20** Includes: Only drug coverage

TOTAL DRUG & PREMIUM COST (for 2025)

**\$120,703.41**

Retail pharmacy: Estimated total drug + premium cost

<https://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare/#/?year=2025&lang=en>

## Formulary coverage

Financial incentives and plan reactions

- IRA incentivizes tighter formularies, especially for standalone PDPs
- Many brands moved off formulary in 2025
- Hard to move drugs with high market share
- Drugs in protected class must be covered, but prior authorization can be a bargaining chip
- MOOP makes tiering less impactful
- Expect less access for new launches



# Medicare drug pricing negotiation

IRA maximum fair prices apply in 2026 for first 10 drugs

- First negotiated prices may increase net plan liability.
- Is there still room for PBMs to negotiate status within classes?
- Where can PBMs bring value?
- How are PBM rebate guarantees adjusted?
- Commercial spillover?
- Negotiated list will grow to 80 drugs by 2030 and include Part D and Part B.

## Part D Negotiated Drug List for 2026

| Product       | PD Utilizers '23 | Total Allowed '23 | Negotiated Discount |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Eliquis       | 3,928,000        | \$18.3B           | 56%                 |
| Jardiance     | 1,883,000        | \$8.8B            | 66%                 |
| Xarelto       | 1,324,000        | \$6.3B            | 62%                 |
| Farxiga       | 994,000          | \$4.3B            | 68%                 |
| Januvia       | 843,000          | \$4.1B            | 79%                 |
| Entresto      | 664,000          | \$3.4B            | 53%                 |
| Stelara       | 23,000           | \$3.0B            | 66%                 |
| Enbrel        | 48,000           | \$3.0B            | 67%                 |
| Novolog/Fiasp | 785,000          | \$2.6B            | 76%                 |
| Imbruvica     | 17,000           | \$2.4B            | 38%                 |

Source: CMS Fact Sheet

**Drugs represent about 20% of Part D allowed and 50% of rebates**



## Part D dynamics

### Part D Formulary Coverage

**Payers and manufactures seek to navigate financial implications of the Inflation Reduction Act**

Manufacturers seek to maximize sales, revenue, profit

Payers seek to offer competitive plans that maintain enrollment and profitability

Post-IRA payer financial incentives present market access challenges

Payer holds higher liability and impact of selection is amplified



# Thank you

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