BACKGROUND

- Specialty Pharmacy (SP) products:
  - Treat specific, complex, and chronic diseases
  - Often involve complex medication use, blood work, education, support
  - Need special handling and are subject to reimbursement restrictions

- Specialty medicines:
  - For retail & mail, represented 12% of spending, 19% of all prescriptions

OBJECTIVES

- To gain a better understanding of health plan management of SP products and biosimilars
- The survey focused on:
  - Top SP products and co-pay
  - Biosimilar coverage, copays and expected savings over time
  - Expectations for prescriber and member biosimilar education

RESULTS

- A total of 52 persons completed the survey, some questions were not answered by all respondents.
- Many respondents reported multiple degrees (Figure 1), and the most common degree was MS (56%)
- Most (86%) of the respondents were involved in formulary decisions

OBJECTIVES

- Prescribers and member biosimilar education
- Expectations for biosimilar use and savings
- Plans expect biosimilar co-pays to be indication-based (9.5%), brand-based (55.8%) and drug class-based (3.8%) (Figure 4)

RESULTS

- Plans covered clinician-administered products under the medical benefit (82.2%, a decrease from 64.4% last year); under the pharmacy benefit (53.0% to 40.0%, a 13% decrease); under the pharmacy benefit, 67.4% reported that they expect this to change in 2017
- The top diseases treated under the Specialty Pharmacy benefit are shown in Figure 4
- Specialty product co-pays continue to move from fixed to percentage with plan sponsors and benefit design to determine the co-pay as shown in Figure 5

CONCLUSIONS

- The managed care P&T committee decision-making process is undergoing a series of changes as plans and payor organizations adapt to these influences
- Plans are undergoing a series of changes to adapt to these influences
- Health plans’ expectations are expected to grow for:
  - Biosimilar Products
  - Formulary management today is changing policies on benefit design and coverage for Specialty Pharmacy products and biosimilars

- The JeSTARx Group provides evidence-based research and actionable data to improve the management of Specialty Drugs, Specialty Pharmacy products and Biosimilars

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