



340B Drug Pricing Program: A Lifeline for People in Need

UW Medicine has an unwavering commitment to improve the health of the public. We deliver highly specialized care to the residents of Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. We also provide a disproportionate amount of uncompensated care to safety net populations at our two public hospitals — University of Washington (UW) Medical Center and Harborview Medical Center — and through a network of community clinics.

The 340B drug pricing program is an essential source of support that allows us to provide patients with financial assistance on more than **165,000 prescriptions** and **25% of the total retail prescriptions dispensed annually** at UW Medical Center and Harborview Medical Center. It also enables our health system to provide nearly **\$836 million annually in uncompensated patient care**, including **\$213 million in direct charity care**.

25%
of retail
prescriptions
are financial
assistance

\$213 million
in direct charity care
\$836 million
in uncompensated
patient care

University of Washington Medical Center

UW Medical Center is one of the world's foremost academic medical centers for research, teaching and patient care. Its specialized service lines include solid organ transplantation, high-risk obstetrical and neonatal care, and multiple sclerosis. In 2023, UW Medical Center applied **\$79 million in 340B savings** to partially offset **\$406 million in uncompensated care**.

Community Benefit: How UW Medicine Applies Savings From the 340B Program

- Patients who cannot afford therapies receive free or reduced price drugs.
- Critical services that operate at a loss, such as caring for people experiencing homelessness or behavioral health challenges, are maintained.
- Funding is available for patient resources that improve community health, including transportation, translation and nutrition services.
- Capital improvements to provide new services in the community and to underserved populations are supported.



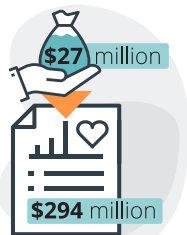
How Patients Benefit from Financial Assistance: UW Medicine's Specialty Pharmacy ensures that the high cost of some prescription drugs is not a barrier to treatment. A typical example comes from a patient who could not afford \$3,475 in out-of-pocket costs when prescribed Humira to treat

Crohn's disease. Our pharmacy team connected the patient to financial assistance and helped complete the patient assistance program application. With this support, the **patient's cost decreased from \$3,475 to \$0** and treatment could begin in a timely manner.

Behavioral Health: UW Medical Center is addressing the acute need for more mental health resources in our state and region. Our new **Center for Behavioral Health and Learning** will offer a full continuum of clinical services for individuals with severe and persistent mental illness when it opens in 2024. Savings from the 340B program will help us make these services available to all people regardless of their ability to pay.

Harborview Medical Center

Harborview Medical Center has served as a safety net for Seattle and King County since its founding in 1877. Today, this vital role continues with support from the 340B program. Harborview applied **\$27 million in 340B savings** in 2023 to partially offset **\$294 million in uncompensated care**.



Harborview's safety-net programs include innovative approaches and community partnerships to increase access to care for all people.

Care for the Unhoused: Harborview recognizes that people who are experiencing homelessness face many barriers in accessing traditional healthcare services and benefit when these

services are brought closer to them. Its **Pioneer Square Clinic** provides primary healthcare and treats acute problems for adult patients in downtown Seattle. It is located close to shelters, a major day center for adults, single resident occupancy hotels and many units of low-income housing.

With community partners, such as the **Downtown Emergency Services Center**, Harborview has also established outreach programs in shelters and supportive housing units. **1811 Eastlake** is a national model for achieving better health outcomes and reducing Emergency Department visits for people with chronic alcohol addiction. Harborview's clinic at **Bill Hobson Place** offers comprehensive wellness care and treatments for acute and chronic illnesses in a permanent supportive housing facility.

Safe, Healthy, Empowered Women's Clinic: Harborview provides trauma-informed care for unhoused women, street-based sex workers in North Seattle. At this community-based program, women receive kind, quality and nonjudgmental healthcare and support. Services include contraception, wound care, screenings and vaccinations, labs and imaging, and harm reduction interventions and referrals for substance use treatment and housing.

Services for Immigrants and Refugees: In King County, residents born outside of the United States account for 24.2% of the population. Harborview's **International Medicine Clinic** provides primary and mental health care to refugees, immigrants, asylum seekers and people who have been trafficked. It also bridges cultural differences by providing interpreter services in more than 100 languages and dialects. For patients and families with limited English proficiency, **Community House Calls** provides another level of support by making home visits to gain a better understanding of patients' living conditions and family support systems.

The 340B program has supported UW Medicine's patients and community for more than 30 years. It is an essential and vital resource to maintain our safety-net programs.