

Reflection

Review the Healthy People 2030 Health Care Access and Quality Links to an external site. objective related to prescription medications.

Consider how your treatment plan might change for this patient if she did not have insurance coverage for prescriptions. What is the cost of the medication you suggested in your treatment plan?

As a future nurse practitioner, it is important to be aware of the amount of money that the patient will have to spend to obtain the medications. For some individuals, their insurance covers most if not all of the cost of the medication, for other people they may not have insurance or their insurance may cover very little of the cost of medications. (Healthy People 2030, n.d.) If this case was being treated on an outpatient basis MH would be prescribed Bactrim BID x 10 days. According to the local Walgreens 20 tabs of Bactrim can be obtained for approximately 7 dollars.

Are more affordable alternatives available?

The practice where I have been doing my clinicals, when you prescribe a medication the out-of-pocket cost automatically populates at the bottom of the screen. I have found that it is a good way of identifying the costs of the medications. I have noted that the NP often pulls up the Good RX on her computer on the screen while in the room with the pt and shows them the costs at the local pharmacies. I have noticed the cost difference is within a few dollars difference for all of the medications that we have researched.

What resources are available to patients in your area who do not have insurance coverage for prescriptions?

In my rural community, there is a local free health clinic. They are very supportive of the people of the community. They determine eligibility based on income. If an individual has insurance they won't qualify for the free health clinic, but they might be able to receive some assistance from the pharmacy portion of the program. (Healthy People 2030, n.d.)

References

Healthy People 2030. (n.d.). Health insurance - healthy people 2030.