

[Comments PDAB -PDAB- <comments.pdab@maryland.gov>](mailto:comments.pdab@maryland.gov)

Drugs Referred to the Stakeholder Council Comment

Mark Varner [REDACTED]
To: comments.pdab@maryland.gov

Thu, May 2, 2024 at 12:04 PM

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments to the PDAB. I am a heart transplant recipient, and transplant recipients are another group of people who have unusual medication requirements.

I am a retired Maryland state employee, and I will be losing the State's drug prescription coverage. Please see the attached article from today's Baltimore Sun for a summary.

This program provides a significant cost-reduction option for the 50,000 plus retirees. The State is moving us to a Medicare Part D plan of our choosing. The key difference between the State provided plan is that the State plan has a much larger formulary of covered medications.

Based on 2024 Medicare Part D options, my costs will increase four-fold. My cost will be thousands of dollars greater.

I note that you are considering Trulicity and Ozempic. I have taken Trulicity in the past, and have noted that Mounjaro provides better benefits. This is agreement with my clinician's observations.

I note that you are also considering Farxiga. I take that medication as well to help with kidney disease damage brought on by the transplant rejection medications that I must take to stay alive.

Mark Varner

 **Retired state workers slated to switch to Medicare Part D next year.pdf**
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