HB0076S02 compared with HB0076S01

~~{deleted text}~~ shows text that was in HB0076S01 but was deleted in HB0076S02.

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0076S01 but was inserted into HB0076S02.

DISCLAIMER: This document is provided to assist you in your comparison of the two bills. Sometimes this automated comparison will not be completely accurate. Therefore, you need to read the actual bill. This automatically generated document could experience abnormalities caused by: limitations of the compare program; bad input data; the timing of the compare; and other potential causes.

Representative Evan J. Vickers proposes the following substitute bill:

PHARMACY AUDIT RIGHTS

2012 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Evan J. Vickers

Senate Sponsor: ~~{_____}~~ Stephen H. Urquhart

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires health benefit plans, the Public Employees' Benefits and Insurance Program, and pharmacy benefit managers to implement certain pharmacy audit procedures when auditing pharmacy claims.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires a health insurer and a pharmacy benefits manager for a health insurer to comply with pharmacy audit rights established in the Pharmacy Practice Act;
- requires the Public Employees' Benefit and Insurance Program to comply with pharmacy audit rights established in the Pharmacy Practice Act;
- amends the definition of pharmacy benefits manager in the Pharmacy Practice Act to be consistent with the definition of pharmacy benefits manager in the Pharmacy

Benefits Manager Act; and

- enacts pharmacy audit rights in the Pharmacy Practices Act that include:
  - definitions;
  - requirements for notice of an audit;
  - limits on the types of claims that may be audited; and
  - requirements for an entity conducting an audit~~; and~~.
  - ~~procedures to appeal an audit.~~

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

49-20-503, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapter 83

58-17b-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 101

ENACTS:

31A-22-640, Utah Code Annotated 1953

58-17b-622, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **31A-22-640** is enacted to read:

31A-22-640. Pharmacy benefit management services -- Audit restrictions.

(1) For purposes of this section "pharmacy benefits manager or coordinator" means a person or entity that provides pharmacy benefit management services as defined in Section 49-20-502 on behalf of an insurer as defined in Subsection 31A-22-636(1).

(2) An insurer and an insurer's pharmacy benefits manager or coordinator is subject to the pharmacy audit provisions of Section 58-17b-622.

Section 2. Section **49-20-503** is amended to read:

49-20-503. Request for proposals for pharmacy benefits manager for Public Employees' Benefit and Insurance Program.

(1) When the board issues a request for proposals for a pharmacy benefits manager to

provide pharmacy benefits management services for the program, the request for proposals shall:

(a) require each responder to comply with the pharmacy audit provisions of Section 58-17b-622; and

(b) provide each responder with the option to include, among the billing options proposed, a billing option that complies with the requirements described in this section.

(2) The billing option described in Subsection (1) shall require the pharmacy benefits manager to, on at least a monthly basis, submit to the board an invoice for all pharmacy services paid by the pharmacy benefits manager on behalf of the program since the last request for payment or reimbursement.

(3) The invoice described in Subsection (2) shall state, as a separate item from any other amount:

(a) the total amount due to the pharmacy benefits manager for all pharmacy services billed in the invoice; and

(b) the total amount paid by the pharmacy benefits manager for the same pharmacy services for which payment is sought in that invoice.

Section 3. Section **58-17b-102** is amended to read:

58-17b-102. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in Section 58-1-102, as used in this chapter:

(1) "Administering" means:

(a) the direct application of a prescription drug or device, whether by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or by any other means, to the body of a human patient or research subject by another person; or

(b) the placement by a veterinarian with the owner or caretaker of an animal or group of animals of a prescription drug for the purpose of injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means directed to the body of the animal by the owner or caretaker in accordance with written or verbal directions of the veterinarian.

(2) "Adulterated drug or device" means a drug or device considered adulterated under 21 U.S.C.S. Sec. 351 (2003).

(3) (a) "Analytical laboratory" means a facility in possession of prescription drugs for the purpose of analysis.

(b) "Analytical laboratory" does not include a laboratory possessing prescription drugs used as standards and controls in performing drug monitoring or drug screening analysis if the prescription drugs are prediluted in a human or animal body fluid, human or animal body fluid components, organic solvents, or inorganic buffers at a concentration not exceeding one milligram per milliliter when labeled or otherwise designated as being for in vitro diagnostic use.

(4) "Animal euthanasia agency" means an agency performing euthanasia on animals by the use of prescription drugs.

(5) "Automated pharmacy systems" includes mechanical systems which perform operations or activities, other than compounding or administration, relative to the storage, packaging, dispensing, or distribution of medications, and which collect, control, and maintain all transaction information.

(6) "Beyond use date" means the date determined by a pharmacist and placed on a prescription label at the time of dispensing that indicates to the patient or caregiver a time beyond which the contents of the prescription are not recommended to be used.

[~~(8)~~] (7) "Board of pharmacy" or "board" means the Utah State Board of Pharmacy created in Section 58-17b-201.

[~~(7)~~] (8) "Branch pharmacy" means a pharmacy or other facility in a rural or medically underserved area, used for the storage and dispensing of prescription drugs, which is dependent upon, stocked by, and supervised by a pharmacist in another licensed pharmacy designated and approved by the division as the parent pharmacy.

(9) "Centralized prescription processing" means the processing by a pharmacy of a request from another pharmacy to fill or refill a prescription drug order or to perform processing functions such as dispensing, drug utilization review, claims adjudication, refill authorizations, and therapeutic interventions.

(10) "Class A pharmacy" means a pharmacy located in Utah that is authorized as a retail pharmacy to compound or dispense a drug or dispense a device to the public under a prescription order.

(11) "Class B pharmacy":

(a) means a pharmacy located in Utah:

(i) that is authorized to provide pharmaceutical care for patients in an institutional

setting; and

(ii) whose primary purpose is to provide a physical environment for patients to obtain health care services; and

(b) (i) includes closed-door, hospital, clinic, nuclear, and branch pharmacies; and

(ii) pharmaceutical administration and sterile product preparation facilities.

(12) "Class C pharmacy" means a pharmacy located in Utah that is authorized to engage in the manufacture, production, wholesale, or distribution of drugs or devices.

(13) "Class D pharmacy" means a nonresident pharmacy.

(14) "Class E pharmacy" means all other pharmacies.

(15) "Closed-door pharmacy" means a pharmacy that provides pharmaceutical care to a defined and exclusive group of patients who have access to the services of the pharmacy because they are treated by or have an affiliation with a specific entity, including a health maintenance organization or an infusion company, but not including a hospital pharmacy, a retailer of goods to the general public, or the office of a practitioner.

(16) "Collaborative pharmacy practice" means a practice of pharmacy whereby one or more pharmacists have jointly agreed, on a voluntary basis, to work in conjunction with one or more practitioners under protocol whereby the pharmacist may perform certain pharmaceutical care functions authorized by the practitioner or practitioners under certain specified conditions or limitations.

(17) "Collaborative pharmacy practice agreement" means a written and signed agreement between one or more pharmacists and one or more practitioners that provides for collaborative pharmacy practice for the purpose of drug therapy management of patients and prevention of disease of human subjects.

(18) (a) "Compounding" means the preparation, mixing, assembling, packaging, or labeling of a limited quantity drug, sterile product, or device:

(i) as the result of a practitioner's prescription order or initiative based on the practitioner, patient, or pharmacist relationship in the course of professional practice;

(ii) for the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching, or chemical analysis and not for sale or dispensing; or

(iii) in anticipation of prescription drug orders based on routine, regularly observed prescribing patterns.

(b) "Compounding" does not include:

(i) the preparation of prescription drugs by a pharmacist or pharmacy intern for sale to another pharmacist or pharmaceutical facility;

(ii) the preparation by a pharmacist or pharmacy intern of any prescription drug in a dosage form which is regularly and commonly available from a manufacturer in quantities and strengths prescribed by a practitioner; or

(iii) the preparation of a prescription drug, sterile product, or device which has been withdrawn from the market for safety reasons.

(19) "Confidential information" has the same meaning as "protected health information" under the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information, 45 C.F.R. Parts 160 and 164.

(20) "Controlled substance" has the same definition as in Section 58-37-2.

(21) "Dietary supplement" has the same meaning as Public Law Title 103, Chapter 417, Sec. 3a(ff) which is incorporated by reference.

(22) "Dispense" means the interpretation, evaluation, and implementation of a prescription drug order or device or nonprescription drug or device under a lawful order of a practitioner in a suitable container appropriately labeled for subsequent administration to or use by a patient, research subject, or an animal.

(23) "Distribute" means to deliver a drug or device other than by administering or dispensing.

(24) (a) "Drug" means:

(i) a substance recognized in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, Official Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, or Official National Formulary, or any supplement to any of them, intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in humans or animals;

(ii) a substance that is required by any applicable federal or state law or rule to be dispensed by prescription only or is restricted to administration by practitioners only;

(iii) a substance other than food intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of humans or other animals; and

(iv) substances intended for use as a component of any substance specified in Subsections (24)(a)(i), (ii), (iii), and (iv).

(b) "Drug" does not include dietary supplements.

(25) "Drug product equivalent" means a drug product that is designated as the therapeutic equivalent of another drug product in the Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations prepared by the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research of the Federal Food and Drug Administration.

(26) "Drug regimen review" includes the following activities:

(a) evaluation of the prescription drug order and patient record for:

(i) known allergies;

(ii) rational therapy-contraindications;

(iii) reasonable dose and route of administration; and

(iv) reasonable directions for use;

(b) evaluation of the prescription drug order and patient record for duplication of therapy;

(c) evaluation of the prescription drug order and patient record for the following interactions:

(i) drug-drug;

(ii) drug-food;

(iii) drug-disease; and

(iv) adverse drug reactions; and

(d) evaluation of the prescription drug order and patient record for proper utilization, including over- or under-utilization, and optimum therapeutic outcomes.

(27) "Drug sample" means a prescription drug packaged in small quantities consistent with limited dosage therapy of the particular drug, which is marked "sample", is not intended to be sold, and is intended to be provided to practitioners for the immediate needs of patients for trial purposes or to provide the drug to the patient until a prescription can be filled by the patient.

(28) "Electronic signature" means a trusted, verifiable, and secure electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

(29) "Electronic transmission" means transmission of information in electronic form or the transmission of the exact visual image of a document by way of electronic equipment.

(30) "Extern" means a college of pharmacy student enrolled in a college coordinated practical experience program in a health care setting under the supervision of a preceptor, as defined in this act, and approved by a college of pharmacy.

(31) "Hospital pharmacy" means a pharmacy providing pharmaceutical care to inpatients of a general acute hospital or specialty hospital licensed by the Department of Health under Title 26, Chapter 21, Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act.

(32) "Legend drug" has the same meaning as prescription drug.

(33) "Licensed pharmacy technician" means an individual licensed with the division, that may, under the supervision of a pharmacist, perform the activities involved in the technician practice of pharmacy.

(34) "Manufacturer" means a person or business physically located in Utah licensed to be engaged in the manufacturing of drugs or devices.

(35) (a) "Manufacturing" means:

(i) the production, preparation, propagation, conversion, or processing of a drug or device, either directly or indirectly, by extraction from substances of natural origin or independently by means of chemical or biological synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and includes any packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or relabeling of its container; and

(ii) the promotion and marketing of such drugs or devices.

(b) "Manufacturing" includes the preparation and promotion of commercially available products from bulk compounds for resale by pharmacies, practitioners, or other persons.

(c) "Manufacturing" does not include the preparation or compounding of a drug by a pharmacist, pharmacy intern, or practitioner for that individual's own use or the preparation, compounding, packaging, labeling of a drug, or incident to research, teaching, or chemical analysis.

(36) "Medical order" means a lawful order of a practitioner which may include a prescription drug order.

(37) "Medication profile" or "profile" means a record system maintained as to drugs or devices prescribed for a pharmacy patient to enable a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to analyze the profile to provide pharmaceutical care.

(38) "Misbranded drug or device" means a drug or device considered misbranded under

21 U.S.C.S. Sec. 352 (2003).

(39) (a) "Nonprescription drug" means a drug which:

(i) may be sold without a prescription; and

(ii) is labeled for use by the consumer in accordance with federal law.

(b) "Nonprescription drug" includes homeopathic remedies.

(40) "Nonresident pharmacy" means a pharmacy located outside of Utah that sells to a person in Utah.

(41) "Nuclear pharmacy" means a pharmacy providing radio-pharmaceutical service.

(42) "Out-of-state mail service pharmacy" means a pharmaceutical facility located outside the state that is licensed and in good standing in another state, that:

(a) ships, mails, or delivers by any lawful means a dispensed legend drug to a patient in this state pursuant to a lawfully issued prescription;

(b) provides information to a patient in this state on drugs or devices which may include, but is not limited to, advice relating to therapeutic values, potential hazards, and uses; or

(c) counsels pharmacy patients residing in this state concerning adverse and therapeutic effects of drugs.

(43) "Patient counseling" means the written and oral communication by the pharmacist or pharmacy intern of information, to the patient or caregiver, in order to ensure proper use of drugs, devices, and dietary supplements.

(44) "Pharmaceutical administration facility" means a facility, agency, or institution in which:

(a) prescription drugs or devices are held, stored, or are otherwise under the control of the facility or agency for administration to patients of that facility or agency;

(b) prescription drugs are dispensed to the facility or agency by a licensed pharmacist or pharmacy intern with whom the facility has established a prescription drug supervising relationship under which the pharmacist or pharmacy intern provides counseling to the facility or agency staff as required, and oversees drug control, accounting, and destruction; and

(c) prescription drugs are professionally administered in accordance with the order of a practitioner by an employee or agent of the facility or agency.

(45) (a) "Pharmaceutical care" means carrying out the following in collaboration with a

prescribing practitioner, and in accordance with division rule:

(i) designing, implementing, and monitoring a therapeutic drug plan intended to achieve favorable outcomes related to a specific patient for the purpose of curing or preventing the patient's disease;

(ii) eliminating or reducing a patient's symptoms; or

(iii) arresting or slowing a disease process.

(b) "Pharmaceutical care" does not include prescribing of drugs without consent of a prescribing practitioner.

(46) "Pharmaceutical facility" means a business engaged in the dispensing, delivering, distributing, manufacturing, or wholesaling of prescription drugs or devices within or into this state.

(47) (a) "Pharmaceutical wholesaler or distributor" means a pharmaceutical facility engaged in the business of wholesale vending or selling of any prescription drug or device to other than the consumer or user of the prescription drug or device, which the pharmaceutical facility has not produced, manufactured, compounded, or dispensed.

(b) "Pharmaceutical wholesaler or distributor" does not include a pharmaceutical facility carrying out the following business activities:

(i) intracompany sales;

(ii) the sale, purchase, or trade of a prescription drug or device, or offer to sell, purchase or trade a prescription drug or device between hospitals or other health care facilities that are under common ownership or control of the management and operation of the facilities;

(iii) the sale, purchase, or trade of a prescription drug or device, or offer to sell, purchase, or trade a prescription drug or device for emergency medical reasons, or to supply another pharmaceutical facility to alleviate a temporary shortage; or

(iv) the distribution of a prescription drug or device as a sample by representatives of a manufacturer.

(48) "Pharmacist" means an individual licensed by this state to engage in the practice of pharmacy.

(49) "Pharmacist-in-charge" means a pharmacist currently licensed in good standing who accepts responsibility for the operation of a pharmacy in conformance with all laws and rules pertinent to the practice of pharmacy and the distribution of drugs, and who is personally

in full and actual charge of the pharmacy and all personnel.

(50) "Pharmacist preceptor" means a licensed pharmacist in good standing with two or more years of licensed experience. The preceptor serves as a teacher, example of professional conduct, and supervisor of interns in the professional practice of pharmacy.

(51) "Pharmacy" means any place where:

(a) drugs are dispensed;

(b) pharmaceutical care is provided;

(c) drugs are processed or handled for eventual use by a patient; or

(d) drugs are used for the purpose of analysis or research.

(52) "Pharmacy benefits manager or coordinator" means a person or entity that [~~administers the prescription drug or device portion of a health insurance plan~~] provides pharmacy benefit management services as defined in Section 49-20-502 on behalf of a self-insured employer, insurance company, health maintenance organization, or other plan sponsor, as defined by rule.

(53) "Pharmacy intern" means an individual licensed by this state to engage in practice as a pharmacy intern.

(54) "Pharmacy technician training program" means an approved technician training program providing education for pharmacy technicians.

(55) (a) "Practice as a licensed pharmacy technician" means engaging in practice as a pharmacy technician under the general supervision of a licensed pharmacist and in accordance with a scope of practice defined by division rule made in collaboration with the board.

(b) "Practice as a licensed pharmacy technician" does not include:

(i) performing a drug utilization review, prescription drug order clarification from a prescriber, final review of the prescription and prescribed drug prepared for dispensing, dispensing of the drug, or counseling a patient with respect to a prescription drug;

(ii) counseling regarding nonprescription drugs and dietary supplements unless delegated by the supervising pharmacist; or

(iii) receiving new prescription drug orders when communicating telephonically or electronically unless the original information is recorded so the pharmacist may review the prescription drug order as transmitted.

(56) "Practice of pharmacy" includes the following:

(a) providing pharmaceutical care;

(b) collaborative pharmacy practice in accordance with a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement;

(c) compounding, packaging, labeling, dispensing, administering, and the coincident distribution of prescription drugs or devices, provided that the administration of a prescription drug or device is:

(i) pursuant to a lawful order of a practitioner when one is required by law; and

(ii) in accordance with written guidelines or protocols:

(A) established by the licensed facility in which the prescription drug or device is to be administered on an inpatient basis; or

(B) approved by the division, in collaboration with the board and the Physicians Licensing Board, created in Section 58-67-201, if the prescription drug or device is to be administered on an outpatient basis solely by a licensed pharmacist;

(d) participating in drug utilization review;

(e) ensuring proper and safe storage of drugs and devices;

(f) maintaining records of drugs and devices in accordance with state and federal law and the standards and ethics of the profession;

(g) providing information on drugs or devices, which may include advice relating to therapeutic values, potential hazards, and uses;

(h) providing drug product equivalents;

(i) supervising pharmacist's supportive personnel, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians;

(j) providing patient counseling, including adverse and therapeutic effects of drugs;

(k) providing emergency refills as defined by rule;

(l) telepharmacy; and

(m) formulary management intervention.

(57) "Practice of telepharmacy" means the practice of pharmacy through the use of telecommunications and information technologies.

(58) "Practice of telepharmacy across state lines" means the practice of pharmacy through the use of telecommunications and information technologies that occurs when the patient is physically located within one jurisdiction and the pharmacist is located in another

jurisdiction.

(59) "Practitioner" means an individual currently licensed, registered, or otherwise authorized by the appropriate jurisdiction to prescribe and administer drugs in the course of professional practice.

(60) "Prescribe" means to issue a prescription:

(a) orally or in writing; or

(b) by telephone, facsimile transmission, computer, or other electronic means of communication as defined by division rule.

(61) "Prescription" means an order issued:

(a) by a licensed practitioner in the course of that practitioner's professional practice or by collaborative pharmacy practice agreement; and

(b) for a controlled substance or other prescription drug or device for use by a patient or an animal.

(62) "Prescription device" means an instrument, apparatus, implement, machine, contrivance, implant, in vitro reagent, or other similar or related article, and any component part or accessory, which is required under federal or state law to be prescribed by a practitioner and dispensed by or through a person or entity licensed under this chapter or exempt from licensure under this chapter.

(63) "Prescription drug" means a drug that is required by federal or state law or rule to be dispensed only by prescription or is restricted to administration only by practitioners.

(64) "Retail pharmacy" means a pharmaceutical facility dispensing prescription drugs and devices to the general public.

(65) "Self-audit" means an internal evaluation of a pharmacy to determine compliance with this chapter.

(66) "Supervising pharmacist" means a pharmacist who is overseeing the operation of the pharmacy during a given day or shift.

(67) "Supportive personnel" means unlicensed individuals who:

(a) may assist a pharmacist, pharmacist preceptor, pharmacy intern, or licensed pharmacy technician in nonjudgmental duties not included in the definition of the practice of pharmacy, practice of a pharmacy intern, or practice of a licensed pharmacy technician, and as those duties may be further defined by division rule adopted in collaboration with the board;

and

(b) are supervised by a pharmacist in accordance with rules adopted by the division in collaboration with the board.

(68) "Unlawful conduct" is as defined in Sections 58-1-501 and 58-17b-501.

(69) "Unprofessional conduct" is as defined in Sections 58-1-501 and 58-17b-502 and may be further defined by rule.

(70) "Veterinary pharmaceutical facility" means a pharmaceutical facility that dispenses drugs intended for use by animals or for sale to veterinarians for the administration for animals.

Section 4. Section **58-17b-622** is enacted to read:

58-17b-622. Pharmacy benefit management services -- Auditing of pharmacy records -- Appeals.

(1) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Audit" means a review of the records of a pharmacy by or on behalf of an entity that finances or reimburses the cost of health care services or pharmaceutical products.

(b) "Entity" includes:

(i) a pharmacy benefits manager or coordinator;

(ii) a health benefit plan;

(iii) a third party administrator as defined in Section 31A-1-301;

(iv) a state agency; or

(v) a company, group, or agent that represents, or is engaged by, one of the entities described in Subsections (1)(b)(i) through (iv).

(c) "Fraud" means an intentional act of deception, misrepresentation, or concealment in order to gain something of value.

(d) "Health benefit plan" means:

(i) a health benefit plan as defined in Section 31A-1-301; or

(ii) a health, dental, medical, Medicare supplement, or conversion program offered under Title 49, Chapter 20, Public Employees' Benefit and Insurance Program Act.

(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), this section applies to:

(i) a contract for the audit of a pharmacy entered into, amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2012; and

(ii) an entity that conducts an audit of the pharmacy records of a pharmacy licensed under this chapter.

(b) This section does not apply to an audit of pharmacy records for ~~{the purpose of detecting fraud in the}~~a federally funded prescription drug program, including:

(i) the state Medicaid program~~{ if the audit is conducted:~~

~~(A) under the provisions of Title 63J, Chapter 4a, Office of Inspector General of Medicaid Services; and~~

~~(B) by the Office of the Inspector General, or its designee; or~~

~~(ii) the federal Medicare program, when the audit is authorized under federal regulations or requirements}~~;

(ii) the Medicare Part D program;

(iii) a Department of Defense prescription drug program; or

(iv) a Veteran's Affairs prescription drug program.

(3) (a) An audit that involves clinical or professional judgment shall be conducted by or in consultation with a licensed pharmacist who is employed by or working with the auditing entity.

(b) If an audit is conducted on site at a pharmacy, the entity conducting the audit:

(i) shall give the pharmacy 10 days advanced written notice of:

(A) the audit; and

(B) the range of prescription numbers or a date range included in the audit; and

(ii) may not audit a pharmacy during the first five business days of the month, unless the pharmacy agrees to the timing of the audit.

(c) An entity may not audit claims:

(i) submitted more than ~~{12}~~18 months prior to the audit, unless:

(A) required by federal law; or

(B) the originating prescription is dated in the preceding ~~{12}~~6 months; or

(ii) that exceed ~~{125}~~200 selected prescription claims.

(4) (a) An entity may not:

(i) include dispensing fees in the calculations of overpayments unless the prescription is considered a misfill;

(ii) recoup funds for prescription clerical or record keeping errors, including

typographical errors, scrivener's errors, and computer errors on a required document or record in the absence of any other evidence deemed fraudulent; or

(iii) collect any funds, charge-backs, or penalties until the audit and all appeals are final, unless the entity has evidence the actions by the pharmacy constituted fraud.

(b) Auditors shall only have access to previous audit reports on a particular pharmacy if the previous audit was conducted by the same entity except as required for compliance with state or federal law.

(5) A pharmacy subject to an audit may use the following records to validate a claim for a prescription, refill, or change in a prescription:

(a) electronic or physical copies of records of a health care facility, or a health care provider with prescribing authority; and

(b) any prescription that complies with state law.

(6) (a) An entity that audits a pharmacy shall provide the pharmacy with a preliminary audit report, delivered to the pharmacy or its corporate office of record within 60 days after completion of the audit.

(b) A pharmacy has 30 days following receipt of the preliminary audit report to respond to questions, provide additional documentation, and comment on and clarify findings of the audit. Receipt of the report shall be based on the postmark date or the date of a computer transmission if transferred electronically.

(7) If an audit results in the dispute or denial of a claim, the entity conducting the audit shall allow the pharmacy to re-submit a claim using any commercially reasonable method, including fax, mail, or electronic claims submission provided that the period of time when a claim may be resubmitted has not expired under the rules of the plan sponsor.

(8) (a) Within 120 days after the completion of the appeals process under Subsection (9), a final audit report shall be delivered to the pharmacy or its corporate office of record.

(b) The final audit report shall include a disclosure of any money recovered by the entity that conducted the audit.

(9) ~~{~~(a)~~}~~ An entity that audits a pharmacy shall establish a written appeals process for appealing a preliminary audit report and a final audit report, and shall provide the pharmacy with notice of the written appeals process. If the pharmacy benefit manager's contract or provider manual contains the information required by this Subsection (9~~{~~)(a~~}~~), the requirement

for notice is met.

~~{ (b) The appeals process under Subsection (9)(a) shall offer the pharmacy the option to submit an appeal of the final audit report to binding arbitration or mediation pursuant to contract or provider agreement with the entity or to civil action if binding arbitration or mediation are not otherwise specified in the contract or provider agreement.~~

~~}~~ (10) This section does not apply to any ~~{investigative pharmacy audit that involves fraud.~~

~~}~~audit, review, or investigation that involves probable Medicaid fraud, probable Medicaid abuse, probable insurance fraud, or other criminal fraud or criminal misrepresentation.