

[Meet MAT



It's the biopharmaceutical industry's mission to find lifesaving treatments. It's also our responsibility to help patients access them.

To help provide patients with more transparency about medicine costs, PhRMA member companies created the Medicine Assistance Tool, or MAT. The platform provides patients, caregivers and health care providers with information to help them connect to financial assistance programs for the medicines patients need. MAT also links to member company websites, referenced in company direct-to-consumer television advertising, where information about the cost of the prescription medicine is available.

WHAT IS PHARMA'S MEDICINE ASSISTANCE TOOL?

The Medicine Assistance Tool (MAT) is a web platform designed to help patients, caregivers and health care providers learn more about some of the resources available to assist in accessing medicines. These include various biopharmaceutical industry programs offered to those who need financial support due to their lack of insurance or inadequate prescription medicine coverage. It also helps people learn more about the costs surrounding their medicines, as well as provides resources to help them better navigate their insurance coverage. MAT is not its own patient assistance program, but rather a search engine for many of the support programs and resources that the biopharmaceutical industry has been offering for decades.

HOW DOES MAT WORK?

MAT is a search engine that contains information on more than 900 public and private assistance programs that help patients access their prescription medicines, including some free or nearly free options. To use MAT, go to MAT.org and select whether you are a patient, loved one or health care professional. Next, enter the name of the medicines you, your loved one or your patient are prescribed and then enter your personal information or that of your loved one or patient (i.e. age, location, income, insurance coverage and household size). MAT will produce search results that identify programs and resources that might be able to help you. Any information provided is kept strictly confidential and will not be used to for any purpose other than providing the search results.

WHO IS INVOLVED IN MAT?

MAT was created by PhRMA, which represents America's top innovative biopharmaceutical research companies. There are hundreds of programs offered by PhRMA's members companies to help qualifying patients. PhRMA works in partnership on MAT with health care providers, pharmacists, patient advocacy organizations and community groups in an ongoing effort to make it easier for those with financial need to access their prescription medicines.

HOW CAN MAT HELP PATIENTS LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR MEDICINE COSTS?

MAT provides patients, caregivers and health care providers with links to websites, referenced in company television advertising, where information about the cost of the prescription medicine is available. These websites may include information such as the list price of the medicine, out-of-pocket costs and other context about the potential costs of the medicine.