



Brossart Pharmacy

COMPOUNDING & MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

My name is John Brossart. I've been a pharmacist for 39 years. My wife and I have owned Brossart Pharmacy in Cleves, Ohio for 35 years.

I grew up in my father's pharmacy in Ross, Ohio. He signed many contracts with insurance companies that basically said to take it or leave it as far as reimbursement. The contracts back then were reasonable, but there was nothing included on increases as inflation increased. Since then, PBMs were introduced, and it's only gotten worse.

In the first 6 months of the year, excluding Medicare D and Medicaid prescriptions, our gross profit was \$3.55 per prescription. According to the Myers and Stauffer report to Ohio Medicaid, the cost to fill a prescription in 2022 was \$10.80. This gives us a loss of \$6351 for the first 6 months. Most of these prescriptions were through CVS/Caremark.

We have also stopped letting people know that we can get the Semaglutide medications, Monjaro, Ozempic etc.; the drugs that are used for weight loss but also for diabetes management. The reason we have done this is due to the \$60 to \$70 loss on each prescription we fill of those. Not only do we not take care of those people, but their disease is not taken care of either.

If PBM reform does not happen, I don't know how much longer we can stay in business. We have already refused Medicare Part D plans from CVS/Caremark for next year due to poor reimbursement. If things don't change and we can't survive, the only pharmacy available will be Kroger pharmacy for almost 10 miles. If the Kroger pharmacy won't accept their insurance either, we're possibly looking at a pharmacy Desert.

HB505 is good for Ohio. We must control costs, but pharmacy is not the problem. Pharmacy is the solution. We are the closest healthcare provider to the public, but we need to be reimbursed fairly to be there for our patients.

PBMs are the problem: they use their uncontrolled power to make an unfair profit off of pharmacies and the companies who use them.

Thank you to the committee for looking at PBM abuse.