

# Prescriptions for Change: Navigating the Complex System of Drug Prices

September 17, 2020

## AGENDA

- 10:00 a.m.**            **Welcome**  
*Robert F. St. Peter, M.D.*, President and CEO, Kansas Health Institute
- 10:10 a.m.**            **State Actions on Prescription Drug Costs and Pricing**  
*Colleen Becker, M.P.P.*, Senior Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures
- 10:35 a.m.**            **Panel Discussion: Understanding the System from the Inside Out**  
*Katelin Lucariello, M.P.H.*, Director of State Policy, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America  
*Alex Sommer, J.D.*, Government Affairs Lobbyist, Prime Therapeutics  
*Aaron Dunkel*, Executive Director, Kansas Pharmacists Association  
*Kate Dixon, M.P.H.*, Medical Student, KU School of Medicine, and Consumer  
Moderator: *Kari M. Bruffett*, Vice President for Policy, Kansas Health Institute
- 11:00 a.m.**            **Audience Questions/Structured Discussion: Applying a Kansas Lens**  
Moderator: *Kari M. Bruffett*, Vice President for Policy, Kansas Health Institute
- 11:25 a.m.**            **Wrap Up**  
*Linda J. Sheppard, J.D.*, Senior Analyst & Strategy Team Leader, Kansas Health Institute
- 11:30 a.m.**            **Adjourn**



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# SPEAKERS



## **Colleen Becker, M.P.P.**

Colleen Becker is a senior policy specialist at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). The policy areas she concentrates on are surprise and balance billing, as well as prescription drugs. She tracks and analyzes legislation, has written numerous policy publications, provides technical assistance to legislators and legislative staff and manages NCSL's Prescription Drug Law Database and Resource Center.

Before joining NCSL, Colleen was the policy coordinator for the Chronic Care Collaborative, an organization that advocates for one in four Coloradoans impacted by chronic disease. Early in her career she spent over a decade as a clinical lab supervisor for Kaiser Permanente where she oversaw all aspects of pathology laboratory operations for the Colorado region. Colleen graduated from the University of Denver with a Master's Degree in Public Policy.

## **PANEL: UNDERSTANDING THE SYSTEM FROM THE INSIDE OUT**



## **Katelin Lucariello**

Katelin Lucariello serves as Director of State Policy for PhRMA's Rocky Mountain Region. Katelin is responsible for providing analysis and guidance on state legislative and regulatory actions impacting the biopharmaceutical industry. Prior to joining PhRMA, Katelin spent a decade working in state health policy consulting for a range of health care stakeholders. Katelin earned a B.A. in political science and sociology from the University of Colorado, where she graduated with honors, and an M.P.H. in health policy from Boston University.



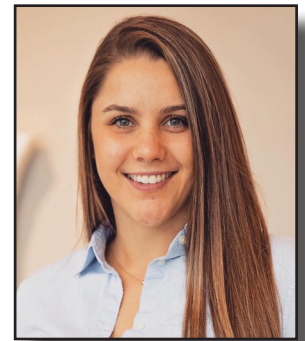
## **Alex Sommer**

Alex Sommer is a licensed attorney who works as a Government Affairs Lobbyist. Prior to working in Government Affairs, Alex worked in Compliance at Prime, providing regulatory compliance expertise for Medicare Part D, Health Insurance Marketplace (HIM), and commercial lines of business. Beyond Prime, Alex has experience across the healthcare industry, including time at the University of Illinois Medical Center and the American Medical Association. He received his Juris Doctor, along with a Certificate in Health Law, from DePaul University College of Law.



## **Aaron Dunkel**

Aaron Dunkel has been advocating for pharmacists in Kansas at KPhA since 2017. Prior to coming to KPhA, from 2007 to 2017, Aaron was the Deputy Secretary over various divisions of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. During his career, Aaron has been involved in several aspects of healthcare and pharmacy pricing, rate setting, and provider relations.



## **Kate Dixon**

Kate Dixon graduated from Kansas State University in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences and a minor in Biology. After completing her M.P.H., Dixon moved back to Kansas to pursue her Doctor of Medicine at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. She continues her love of public health and health policy in her part-time work as a Volunteer Manager at the Unified Government Public Health Department while studying as a second-year medical student.



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