

Assignments due in Session 13 and 14 (see syllabus for session dates)**Part 1: Medication Trend and Biosimilar Impact Analysis**

- You are a Research Analyst at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), working with the Director of Research to understand trend drivers among medical benefit drugs. The Director is seeking your help to understand major reasons why medication costs increased between 2018 and 2021, and also understand the impact that biosimilar versions of medications have had on 2021 expenses.
- Here are the specific questions you must answer for your final project:
 - What is the total change in medication cost PMPM between 2018 and 2021?
 - What are the top 10 medications with the highest PMPM increases between 2018 and 2021?
 - Entyvio is a medication for which payment increased by over \$283 million in 2021. How much of this increase is driven by more patients using the medication, versus an increase in per-patient cost between 2018 and 2021?
 - Biosimilar versions of certain drugs have helped ease total cost in recent years because they have a lower per-patient cost than reference products. What is the gross impact of biosimilars in 2021?
 - To answer this question, you should analyze what the 2021 medication cost would have been if all the utilization for preferred biosimilar products in 2021 was paid at the same per-patient cost as the reference product. This involves identifying the per-patient cost for each reference product, and then applying that per-patient cost to the volume of patients receiving preferred products.
 - In some cases, there were multiple reference products within the same reference class used in 2021. You should choose the per-patient cost of the reference product with the highest patient volume in 2021.
- **Deliverable for Session 13:**
 - The final project is not due until Session 14. However, your task for Session 13 is to make progress towards the final deliverable, prepare your analysis and your calculations to share with the instructor. Instructor will be available to consult on and verify calculations while in class.
- **Deliverable for Session 14:**
 - Your task is to complete this analysis, craft an email to the Director of Research with the answers to the four questions above, as well as present your findings to him using a PowerPoint presentation.
 - Your PPT presentation should contain no more than two slides (not counting a title slide). Please submit the PPT file on Canvas.
 - Please send an email to the Director with a synopsis of your findings supported by your attachments.
 - Please deliver a 90-second presentation at Session 14.