

Answer the questions you can (that correspond to the section you read). Then collaborate with the others to get the answers you need.

- 1) What program has allowed the US government to keep drug prices low ? (text A : answer *Part B of the current Medicare prescription drug plan program- providing seniors choice and competition*)
- 2) Who is the world leader in drug development ? (text B *the US*)
- 3) What does the majority of pharmaceutical companies rely on for funding their R&D ? What could jeopardize their quest for innovative cures ? (text C *private investors, policy decisions from Congress*)
- 4) What do the letters CBO stand for ? What was their recommendation for saving the US government money ? (text A *Congressional Budget Office ; against direct negotiations with Medicare unless the GVT was allowed to impose formulary restrictions and reduced benefits*)
- 5) What are some examples of policies decided by Congress supporting innovative research ? (C *Orphan Drug Act, the Hatch/Waxman Act, the Prescription Drug User Fee Act, the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act, the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act, the creation of the Small Business Innovation Research program, and the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act*)
- 6) Who negotiates drug discounts from pharmaceutical companies ? How much money was saved on prescription drugs as a result of their competing against each other ? (text A *insurers that negotiate with drug companies/compete against each other : \$349 lower than initially projected*)
- 7) What is required for being a leader in innovative drug development ? (text B *a competitive, free market system with no limitations on successful innovations*)
- 8) Find an adjective that can be used to describe a law, a policy that will discourage private investment. It is usually used by ophthalmologists ? (C *short-sighted*)
- 9) In which text can you read that government price control is not desirable for patients ? (A *it leads to less supply, less innovation, less access, C*)
- 10) What will soon account for 70% of the future clinical pipeline ? (text B *biopharmaceutical companies*)
- 11) What would have happened if the US had adopted EU-style price controls ? (text A and C *the world would have 117 fewer medicines today*)
- 12) What could happen without a transparent payment system and strong IP rights ? (text B *no investment in biopharmaceutical innovation*)

Glossary :

An open **formulary** has no limitation to access to a medication. Open **formularies** are generally large. A closed **formulary** is a limited list of medications. A closed **formulary** may limit drugs to specific physicians, patient care areas, or disease states via **formulary restrictions**

One size fits all model : same model for all

A **prescription drug** : you need a prescription from your GP

An **OTC drug** : can be bought Over-The-Counter

A **caregiver** : a family member or paid helper who regularly looks after a child or a sick, elderly, or disabled person

Outstanding : exceptional

Savvy : having the ability to make good judgements

Committed : engaged

An **endeavor** : an attempt

To **incentivize** : provide incentives (sthg that motivates someone to do something)

A **setback** : something that happens that delays or prevents a process from developing

Account for : explain

Flee : escape from

To **rely on** : count on

The **flip side** : the opposite, less good side

The conditional

Over 200 patient groups have [sent a letter to Congress](#) expressing opposition to proposals that **would allow** the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to interfere in private negotiations in the Medicare Part D program. (**if** the proposals **are implemented** they **will** allow/**if** they **were** accepted, they **would allow**)

In fact, [research shows that](#), **if** the United States **had adopted** EU-style price controls in the past, the world **would have** 117 fewer new medicines today.

PRACTICE

Match the sentences and join them with *if*

0 I went to bed earlier.

1 The twins had worn different clothes.

2 You tell me what the instructions say.

3 People used public transport.

4 You don't wear a sweater.

5 I hadn't seen the product advertised.

I'll try to follow them.

You might not be warm enough.

I wouldn't have bought it.

I wouldn't sleep

There'd be less pollution.

We could have told them apart.

0 *If I went to bed earlier, I wouldn't sleep.*

1 *If the twins had worn different clothes we could have told them apart.*

2 *If you tell me what the instructions say I'll try to follow them.*

3 *If people used public transport there would be less pollution.*

4 *If you don't wear a sweater you might not be warm enough.*

5 *If I hadn't seen the product advertised I wouldn'd have bought it.*