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Up To 5% Increase In Total U.S. Drug Spending Projected For 2012

Total U.S. drug expenditures across all settings are projected to increase by 3-5% in 2012, according to a study published by the *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*.¹

Expenditures for clinic-administered drugs are projected to increase by 5-7% this year. Meanwhile, hospitals are expected to see a 0-2% increase in drug expenditures in 2012.

Further, the study found that total U.S. drug expenditures increased from \$299.2 billion in 2009 to \$307.5 billion in 2010, a 2.7% increase.

The study is available at http://www.ajhp.org/site/Projecting_future_drug_expenditures_2012.pdf

1. Hoffman JM, Li E, Doloresco F et al. Projecting future drug expenditures—2012. *Am J Health-Syst Pharm*. 2012; 69:e5-21.

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ASHP Health Policy Alerts are synopses of new studies highlighting the medication-use process in health care, especially studies assessing contemporary pharmacists' role in improving medication-use outcomes. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists encourages recipients to keep a copy of this synopsis for future reference.

