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**Employers Impose Controls on Drugs**

The University of Minnesota is trying to cut down on drug costs for their 39,000 employees. For expensive drugs, they get only a two-week supply. Before they can get the rest, they must check in with a nurse at the university’s specialty pharmacy. This policy is called “split fill.” The purpose is to pay less for drugs when a patient experiences difficult side effects and stops taking the medication.

However, this policy can place a burden on the really sick because they must go through the bureaucratic process to get the rest of their medication, and it introduces an outside decision-maker into the equation, the pharmacy nurse who doesn’t know the patient or their medical history. Let us know if you experience this and what you think.