

## New Jersey Pharmacy Owner Sentenced to Prison For \$2.5 Million Medicare Fraud Scheme

Healthcare Law Update

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On April 17, 2026, the United States Attorney's Office, District of New Jersey, [announced](#) that a former New Jersey pharmacy owner was sentenced to two years in federal prison after pleading guilty to a health care fraud scheme to defraud Medicare. From December 2019 to December 2021, the individual used his Paterson pharmacy to submit fraudulent claims to Medicare totaling roughly \$2.5 million for the costly medication Difucid, despite never purchasing or providing the medication to patients. As the Medicare beneficiaries were never actually prescribed Difucid, the pharmacist fraudulently used health care providers' unique provider numbers to submit and support the false claims. The pharmacist used the illicit proceeds for luxury purchases and personal expenses. Along with the prison sentence, the pharmacist was ordered to repay more than \$2.5 million and complete two years of supervised release.

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