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Health Care: Programs To Control
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The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) established two programs to contain the costs of prescription drugs under Medicaid and Medicare by setting upper limits on the amounts that could be reimbursed. One program,

the Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) Program, pertains to multiple-source drugs and is applicable to Medicaid and Medicare. The other program, the Estimated Acquisition Cost (EAC) Program, pertains to all drugs and is applicable only to Medicaid. GAO looked into the effectiveness of these programs in five States and obtained information on the effectiveness of State drug substitution laws nationwide.