

## Health Care Market Oversight

# Elevance Health and Kroger Specialty Pharmacy

The [Health Care Market Oversight](#) (HCMO) program reviews health care business deals to make sure they do not harm people and communities in Oregon. On July 18, 2024, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) accepted a [notice](#) describing plans for Elevance Health to buy Kroger Specialty Pharmacy.

## Who's involved?

**Elevance Health, Inc.** (“Elevance”) is a public, for-profit company that offers health insurance plans and health care services nationwide. Elevance operates several pharmacy businesses, including a pharmacy benefit manager and infusion, specialty, and online pharmacy services. Elevance does not currently have pharmacy locations in Oregon, though it does serve patients in Oregon through mail and online services.

**Kroger Specialty Pharmacy Holdings, Inc.** (“KSP”) is a nationwide pharmacy and infusion business owned and operated by The Kroger Co. (“Kroger”). KSP has no physical locations or employees in Oregon. Kroger also operates retail pharmacies, a pharmacy benefit manager, and a mail-order pharmacy business. Specialty pharmacies dispense drugs that require special handling and administration. Specialty drugs may be high cost and often treat rare or complex conditions.

## About the deal

Elevance plans to buy KSP from Kroger. The proposed transaction includes the sale of only the Kroger Specialty Pharmacy business. Kroger will keep ownership of its retail pharmacies and other pharmacy business. (This deal is separate from Kroger’s planned merger with Albertsons, which is also under [HCMO review](#).) Elevance intends to add KSP to CarelonRx, its pharmacy business. In the notice, Elevance says it does not expect the transaction to result in any changes to the health care services offered by Elevance or KSP in Oregon.

## What's next?

OHA is reviewing this deal to understand how it could affect access to specialty pharmacy services for communities in Oregon. During the review, OHA will use health care data, news and media reports, information from the companies, and public input from to decide whether the deal should be approved. After completing a review, OHA will issue a decision about whether the deal may proceed as planned.

## We want to hear from you!

Public input helps us understand how this deal could help or harm people in your community. To share your thoughts about this deal, please email [hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov). In your email, mention “Kroger Specialty Pharmacy”, what you think, and whether you support or oppose the deal.

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