

THE NEXT STEP TO TACKLING DRUG PRICING: PHARMACEUTICAL REBATES

ASCP is committed to policies and regulations that help reduce patient's financial burden and improve patient access. Our organization has been active in every step of the drug pricing debate. We support legislative fixes like H.R. 1781 - Payment Commission Data Act of 2019, a bipartisan proposal that will provide the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MEDPAC) and the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission with access to certain drug payment information, including information on pharmaceutical rebates. This bill is currently making its way through both chambers of Congress and will help members achieve their promise to bring transparency to the drug pricing system.

Pharmaceutical costs are too high. The Administration has taken much needed steps to reform the rebate system to lower patients' out-of-pocket costs—but we're not done yet. We need your support for H.R. 1781 and similar medication pricing bills to help ensure rebate transparency. Take the next step to empower patients and pharmacists with the knowledge they need to take control of their health.

Each year, prescription drug plans (PDPs) and pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) receive upwards of \$150 billion in negotiated discounts and rebates that are supposed to be utilized to lower costs for patients at the pharmacy counter.¹ We are hopeful that the current proposal from the Administration will help stop insurers and PBMs from exploiting the system and favoring the most expensive medications.

This regulatory proposal, and other legislative proposals like H.R. 1781, will peel back the curtain on the pharmaceutical pricing system and help ensure that patients, especially older adults living with chronic diseases, are benefitting from the manufacturer rebates afforded to them. Studies have shown that sharing negotiated discounts at the pharmacy counter could save older adults with chronic conditions more than 350 million dollars annually.²

These proposed changes will begin to rid our system of secret dealings between PBMs, PDPs, and pharmaceutical companies that raise prices for patients and hinder access to lifesaving medications. But there are still many more opportunities that Congress can take to help further lower beneficiary costs and stop harmful exploitation of the healthcare system.

The Payment Commission Data Act of 2019 and similar medication pricing bills that ensure rebate transparency will empower patients and pharmacists with the knowledge they need to take control of their health. Please support this powerful legislation and **#GetLoud** for Senior Care Pharmacy and their patients.

Let your constituents know that you're on their side and take the next step to help lower prescription drug costs.

1. American Patients First. The Trump Administration Blueprint to Lower Drug Prices and Reduce Out-of-Pocket Costs. www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/AmericanPatientsFirst.pdf. Accessed May 2018

2. A Vision For a Healthier America. Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease. www.fightchronicdisease.org/sites/default/files/PFCDD-Diabetes%20Rebates-USA-Final%20%281%29.pdf. Accessed April 2019

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