



December 22, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

The Part B Access for Seniors and Physicians (ASP) Coalition is stunned that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation Services (CMMI) at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced it will move forward with a model that will lead to irreparable harm for the most vulnerable Medicare beneficiaries – the Most Favored Nation (MFN) Model for Medicare Part B drugs. On November 20, 2020, CMS released an interim final rule creating the seven-year MFN Model on a nationwide, mandatory basis, set to begin on January 1, 2021.

As a result of the MFN Model, Medicare patients with deadly and debilitating conditions – such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn’s disease, macular degeneration, autoimmune disorders, and rare diseases – will face massive hurdles in accessing critical therapies. CMS acknowledged repeatedly that the model would force beneficiaries to “forego” care; in fact, the CMS Office of the Actuary predicts 19 percent lower utilization of these drugs due to “no access.”

The ASP Coalition is an alliance of patient and provider groups dedicated to preserving patient access to the lifesaving therapies covered by Medicare Part B. We call on Congress to act immediately to delay implementation of this risky, ill-conceived, and misdirected model. Swift action is essential to protect the most vulnerable Medicare beneficiaries across the U.S.

We are incredibly discouraged that CMS, in its own materials, acknowledges that patients will suffer potentially devastating impacts during the most critical medical challenges of their lives:

- CMS states that a portion of the model “savings is attributable to beneficiaries not accessing their drugs through the Medicare benefit, along with the associated lost utilization.”
- CMS adds that beneficiaries may “experience access to care impacts” by being forced to use an “alternative therapy that may have lower efficacy or greater risks, or postponing or forgoing treatment.”
- The CMS Office of the Actuary estimates \$85 billion in savings, partly as a result of patients foregoing treatments.



As a result of this ill-founded model, seniors will be forced to accept less effective treatments, or will lose access entirely – causing deadly or costly complications that could have been prevented.

Further, this dramatic new policy will force providers to decide between accepting reimbursement rates lower than the price they pay for drugs and choosing less-optimal treatments for their patients. This model will impact nearly all Part B providers and will have a disproportionate impact on patients of small and rural health care providers. Adding to the burdens of already struggling rural communities is the wrong policy for Medicare patients living in these areas.

We urge you to pass legislation to require an immediate delay of the MFN Model and look forward to working with you on patient-centered proposals to improve Medicare quality and value.

Sincerely,  
(355 signers listed below)

1in9: The Long Island Breast Cancer Action Coalition (Hewlett House)

ACT - Advancing CT Together

Action CF

Action Wellness

ADAP Advocacy Association (aaa+)

ADNP Kids Research Foundation

Advocates for Responsible Care (ARxC)

AIDS Delaware, Inc.

Aimed Alliance

Alabama Cancer Congress

Alabama Society for the Rheumatic Diseases

Alaska Rheumatology Alliance

AliveAndKickn

Allergy & Asthma Network

Alliance for Patient Access (AfPA)

ALS Association Northern New England Chapter

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI)

American Academy of Neurology

American Academy of Ophthalmology

American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association (AARDA)

American Behcet's Disease Association (ABDA)

American Bone Health

American College of Rheumatology

American Gastroenterological Association



American Glaucoma Society  
American Kidney Fund  
American Liver Foundation  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Partnership for Eosinophilic Disorders  
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research  
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Retina Specialists  
American Urological Association  
Angelman Syndrome Foundation  
Applied Pharmacy Solutions  
Arizona Aunt Rita's Foundation  
Arizona Bioindustry Association, Inc. (AZBio)  
Arizona Myeloma Network (AzMN)  
Arizona Ophthalmological Society  
Arkansas Rheumatology Association  
Arthritis Foundation  
Association for Clinical Oncology  
Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC)  
Association of Northern California Oncologists (ANCO)  
Association of Women in Rheumatology (AWIR)  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Beacon Charitable Pharmacy  
BIO Alabama  
BIO El Paso-Juarez  
Bio Nebraska Life Sciences Association  
Bio North Texas  
Biocom California  
BioCT  
BioFlorida  
BioForward Wisconsin  
BioKansas  
BioME  
BioNJ  
BioOhio  
Bioscience Association of North Dakota  
Bioscience Association of West Virginia



Biotechnology Innovation Organization  
BioUtah  
Black Women's Health Imperative  
Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona  
Breaking The Sickle Cell Cycle Foundation, Inc.  
Brenda's Brown Bosom Buddies, Inc.  
California Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons  
California Access Coalition  
California Chronic Care Coalition  
California Hepatitis C Task Force  
California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce  
California Life Sciences Association (CLSA)  
California Medical Association  
California Rheumatology Alliance (CRA)  
Cancer Awareness Network for Children Inc.  
Cancer Caregivers AZ  
Cancer Lifeline  
Cancer Pathways  
Cancer Support Community Arizona  
Caregiver Action Network  
Caregiver Voices United  
Caring Ambassadors Program  
Carrie's TOUCH Breast Cancer Organization  
Casey Eye Institute - Oregon Health and Science University  
Centro de Mi Salud, LLC  
Charleston Parkinson's Support Group  
Christian Council of Delmarva  
Chronic Care Collaborative  
Chronic Care Policy Alliance  
Chronic Disease Coalition  
Chronic Disease Prevention Council  
CLL Society  
Coalition of Hematology Oncology Practices (CHOP)  
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations (CSRO)  
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD)  
Coalition of Wisconsin Aging and Health Groups  
Color of Crohn's & Chronic Illness  
Colorado BioScience Association



Colorado Gerontological Society  
Colorado Rheumatology Association  
Colorado State Grange  
Combined Health Agencies Drive (CHAD) of Nebraska  
Community Access National Network (CANN)  
Community Health Action Network  
Community Liver Alliance  
Community Oncology Alliance (COA)  
Connecticut Bioscience Growth Council  
Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS)  
Council for Affordable Health Coverage  
Council of State Bioscience Associations  
Cutaneous Lymphoma Foundation  
Cystic Fibrosis Research, Inc. (CFRI)  
Delaware BioScience Association, Inc.  
Delaware Society of Clinical Oncology  
Denali Oncology Group  
Digestive Health Physicians Association (DHPA)  
Easterseals  
Economic Development Corporation of New Haven  
Empire State Hematology and Oncology Society  
Fabry Support and Information Group  
Familia Unida Living with MS  
Florida Society of Clinical Oncology (FLASCO)  
Florida Society of Rheumatology  
Free ME from Lung Cancer  
GBS|CIDP Foundation International  
Georgia Bio  
Georgia Society of Rheumatology  
Gilda's Club South Florida  
Global Colon Cancer Association  
Global Healthy Living Foundation  
Global Liver Institute  
GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer  
Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology  
Health Education Advocacy Learning (HEAL) Collaborative  
Healthcare Institute of New Jersey (HINJ)  
Healthcare Leadership Council



HealthHIV  
HealthyWomen  
Hepatitis C Mentor and Support Group (HCMSG)  
ICAN - International Cancer Advocacy Network  
Idaho Medical Association  
Idaho Society of Clinical Oncology  
Illinois Biotechnology Innovation Organization (iBIO)  
Illinois Medical Oncology Society  
Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness  
Illinois Society of Eye Physicians & Surgeons (ISEPS)  
Indiana Academy of Ophthalmology (IAO)  
Indiana Health Industry Forum (IHIF)  
Indiana Oncology Society  
INDUNIV Research Center, Inc.  
Infusion Access Foundation  
Infusion Providers Alliance  
International Association of Hepatitis Task Forces (IAHTF)  
International Foundation for Autoimmune & Autoinflammatory Arthritis (AiArthritis)  
International Myeloma Foundation  
International Pemphigus and Pemphigoid Foundation  
Intrafusion  
ION Solutions  
Iowa Biotechnology Association  
Iowa Oncology Society  
Iowa State Grange  
Jewish Family Services of Delaware  
Kansas Society of Clinical Oncology  
Kansas Society of Eye Physicians & Surgeons (KSEPS)  
KCCure  
Kentuckiana Rheumatology Alliance  
Kentucky Access to Care Coalition  
Kentucky Life Sciences Council  
KidneyCAN (Cancer Action Network)  
Large Urology Group Practice Association (LUGPA)  
Las Vegas HEALS  
Latino Diabetes Association  
Life Science Tennessee  
Life Science Washington



Life Sciences Pennsylvania  
Liver Coalition of San Diego  
Louisiana BIO  
Louisiana Oncology Society  
Lung Cancer Research Foundation  
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.  
Lupus Foundation New England  
Lupus Foundation of America  
Lupus Foundation of Arkansas, Inc.  
Lupus Foundation of Colorado  
Lupus Foundation of Southern Arizona  
Lupus of Nevada  
Maryland DC Society of Clinical Oncology  
Maryland Society for the Rheumatic Diseases (MSRD)  
Maryland State Grange  
Maryland Technology Council  
Massachusetts Biotechnology Council (MassBio)  
Massachusetts, Maine & New Hampshire Rheumatology Association  
Meals on Wheels of Wake County  
Medical Association of Georgia  
Medical Center of the Americas Foundation  
Medical Oncology Association of Southern California, Inc. (MOASC)  
Medical Society of the State of New York  
Medical Society of Virginia  
Men's Health Network  
Michigan Biosciences Industry Association (MichBio)  
Michigan Lupus Foundation  
Michigan Osteopathic Association  
Michigan Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons (MiSEPS)  
Michigan Society of Hematology and Oncology (MSHO)  
MidWest Rheumatology Association  
Minnesota Independent Physicians Association  
Minnesota Society of Clinical Oncology  
Mississippi Arthritis and Rheumatism Society (MSARS)  
Mississippi Oncology Society  
Mississippi Psychiatric Association  
Mississippi State Medical Association  
Missouri Biotechnology Association (MOBIO)



Missouri Oncology Society  
MLD Foundation  
Montana Bioscience Association  
Montana State Oncology Society  
Multiple Sclerosis Foundation  
My Style Matters  
My Three Sicklers (MTS) Sickle Cell Foundation  
National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses Houston  
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs  
National Coalition for LGBT Health  
National Community Oncology Dispensing Association (NCODA)  
National Comprehensive Cancer Network  
National Consumers League  
National Eczema Association  
National Grange  
National Hispanic Council on Aging  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National Indian Council on Aging  
National Infusion Center Association (NICA)  
National Medical Association (NMA)  
National Minority Quality Forum  
National Oncology State Network (NOSN)  
National Organization of Rheumatology Managers (NORM)  
National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF)  
National Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce  
Nebraska Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons  
Nebraska Oncology Society  
Nebraska Rheumatology Society  
Nevada Chronic Care Collaborative  
Nevada Oncology Society  
New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc. (NJAMHAA)  
New Jersey Mayors Committee on Life Sciences  
New Jersey Rheumatology Association (NJRA)  
New Mexico Biotechnology & Biomedical Association (NMBio)  
New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC)  
New Mexico Society of Clinical Oncology - NMSCO  
New York State Rheumatology Society





NewYorkBIO  
North Carolina Biosciences Organization (NCBIO)  
North Carolina Medical Society  
North Carolina Oncology Association  
North Carolina Rheumatology Association (NCRA)  
North Carolina Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons (NCSEPS)  
North Carolina State Grange  
Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition  
Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society  
Ohio Association of Rheumatology  
Ohio Federation for Health Equity and Social Justice  
Ohio Hematology Oncology Society  
Oklahoma Society of Clinical Oncology  
Oncology Managers of Florida  
Oregon Bioscience Association  
Oregon Rheumatology Alliance  
Oregon Society of Medical Oncology (OSMO)  
Patients Rising Now  
Pennsylvania Academy of Ophthalmology  
Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition  
Pennsylvania Rheumatology Society  
Pennsylvania Society of Oncology & Hematology  
Philadelphia Rheumatism Society  
Physicians Advocacy Institute  
Platelet Disorder Support Association  
Premier Oncology Hematology Management Society (POHMS)  
Prevent Blindness  
Prevent Blindness Georgia  
Prevent Blindness Iowa  
Prevent Blindness North Carolina  
Prevent Blindness Wisconsin  
Prevent Blindness, Ohio Affiliate  
Prostate Health Education Network, Inc.  
Psychosocial Rehabilitation Association of New Mexico  
Puerto Rico Hematology and Medical Oncology Association  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Rare Access Action Project  
Regarding Cancer



RetireSafe  
Rheumatism Society of the District of Columbia  
Rheumatology Alliance of Louisiana (RAL)  
Rheumatology Association of Minnesota and the Dakotas  
Rheumatology Association of Nevada  
Rheumatology Nurses Society  
RI Bio  
Richmond Academy of Medicine  
Rio Grande Valley Partnership  
Rocky Mountain Oncology Society  
Rocky Mountain Stroke Center  
Rush To Live  
Rutgers-RWJ Medical School  
Rx in Reach GA Coalition  
Rx Partnership  
SCBIO  
Sick Cells - A Sickle Cell Disease Organization  
Society for Gynecologic Oncology  
Society of Utah Medical Oncologists  
South Carolina Medical Association  
South Carolina Oncology Society  
South Carolina Rheumatism Society  
South Dakota Biotech Association  
South Florida Cancer Association  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
State Grange of Minnesota  
State of Texas Association of Rheumatologists (STAR)  
State of West Virginia Rheumatology Society  
Survivors Cancer Action Network  
Tennessee Oncology Practice Society (TOPS)  
Tennessee Rheumatology Society  
Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute (THBI)  
Texas Kidney Foundation  
Texas Medical Association  
Texas Ophthalmological Association  
Texas Society of Clinical Oncology  
The Arizona Clinical Oncology Society  
The Headache and Migraine Policy Forum



The Kim Foundation  
The Latino Coalition  
The Macula Society  
The Purple Iris Foundation  
The US Oncology Network  
Tigerlily Foundation  
TOUCH, The Black Breast Cancer Alliance  
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association  
U.S. Pain Foundation  
Upstage Lung Cancer  
Vasculitis Foundation  
Vets Place Northwest - Welcome Home  
Virginia Association of Hematologists & Oncologists  
Virginia Biotechnology Association  
Virginia Chamber of Commerce  
Virginia Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons  
Virginia Society of Rheumatologists  
Washington (State) Rheumatology Alliance  
Washington State Medical Association  
Washington State Medical Oncology Society  
West Virginia Oncology Society  
Wisconsin Association of Hematology & Oncology  
Wisconsin Rheumatology Association  
Wyoming Epilepsy Association  
Wyoming State Advocates in Leadership  
Wyoming State Oncology Society  
ZERO - The End of Prostate Cancer

cc: Honorable Alex Azar, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services  
Honorable Seema Verma, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Honorable Chuck Grassley, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee  
Honorable Ron Wyden, Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee  
Honorable Richard Neal, Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means  
Honorable Kevin Brady, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and Means  
Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Honorable Greg Walden, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce