

Infusion Providers Alliance

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Washington, DC — The Infusion Providers Alliance (IPA), the leading voice for in-office and freestanding ambulatory infusion care, wishes to express its strong opposition to the Medicare prescription drug pricing provisions in the Build Back Better legislation. IPA represents nearly 1,000 community-based, non-hospital providers in 43 states. Our facilities are major access points of care for patients with complex and chronic health conditions, providing convenience and an exceptional patient experience with better outcomes at a much lower cost than the hospital setting.

“The legislation will have a devastating impact on patient access to needed medications and will drive Part B drug infusions to the more expensive hospital setting, where Medicare pays twice as much for infused drug administration,” said IPA President Doug Ghertner. The bill will establish arbitrary price controls in Medicare that will ripple through the healthcare continuum and upend the reliable system that enables patients with chronic diseases to receive their complex drug infusions in the community setting at convenient, safe and less expensive sites of care.

“By treating our patients in the office rather than the hospital, we’ve saved Medicare and commercial payors millions of dollars,” said Arizona physician Clifford Martin, MD. “The drug pricing provisions of the Build Back Better Act would significantly cut our reimbursement, in some cases below cost, forcing us to refer our infusion patients to the higher cost local hospital. This will increase patient copays and cost taxpayers, insurers and employers far more money for less convenient and less efficient care.”

IPA believes there are better ways to restrain drug costs, including migrating care to more efficient community settings, capping beneficiary out-of-pocket spending for Part B medications and encouraging the prescribing of less expensive infused drugs and biosimilars.

All inquiries should be emailed to IPA Executive Director Brad Traverse at Brad.Traverse@InfusionProvidersAlliance.org. To find out more about IPA, please visit our website at www.infusionprovidersalliance.org.