January 26, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
House of Representatives
Office of the Speaker
H-232, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
House of Representatives
Office of the Democratic Leader
H-204, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi:

The undersigned organizations write to request quick action in 2017 to ensure Medicare beneficiaries have access to Part B Durable Medicare Equipment (DME) home infusion services, equipment and drugs. Provisions included in *The 21st Century Cures Act*, implementation of Average Sales Price (ASP) for Part B DME infusion drugs in January of 2017 with a delay in payment for the necessary home infusion services to safely administer these drugs until January of 2021, create a high probability of reducing beneficiary access to these critical therapies.

Any change in Part B DME drug reimbursement should be simultaneously implemented with a payment for home infusion services. The disconnect of these two payment provisions in *The 21st Century Cures Act* would create a four-year gap between the implementation of ASP and the implementation of the infusion services payment. This four-year gap needs to be closed to ensure beneficiaries have access to the critical drugs that are provided under the Medicare Part B DME benefit.

While several therapies are impacted by this change, two are dramatically affected - inotropic therapy for heart failure and subcutaneous immunoglobulin therapy for primary immunodeficiency diseases. Due to the required shift in drug reimbursement without an infusion services payment for four years, Medicare emergency department, hospital, and infusion costs may increase for this population of beneficiaries. In some cases beneficiaries may have no site of care available for their lifesaving infusions. Beneficiaries will suffer and be put at risk for even more complicated and costly health problems. For decades, home infusion has been used by Medicare and the private sector to deliver lifesaving treatments to patients without increased costs, infection risks, hospitalizations and hospital readmissions. This would be a step back from the stated goals of Congress to provide low cost, high quality care in the Medicare program.

<u>We request that Congress move early in 2017 to ALIGN the effective dates of ASP reimbursement for Part B DME infusion drugs and the infusion services payment (Section 5004(a) and Section 5012 of *The 21st Century Cures Act*).</u>

Sincerely,

1st America Infusion Services LLC
Access IV Sacramento, division of Briova Specialty Infusion
Advanced Care
Advanced Home Care
Advanced Home Care Services West Inc.

Advocate Health Care
Affinity Home Care Plus
Altruistix Nursing Services, Inc.
Ambient Healthcare
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
American Association for Homecare
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses
American Medical Direct
American Outcomes Management, LP
American Society of Consultant Pharmacists
American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
American Society of Transplantation
Amerita, Inc.
Apple Infusion, Inc.
ARJ Infusion Services
Association for Vascular Access
At Home Infusion Services
AxelaCare
Banner Health
Barnes Healthcare Services
Baystate Home Infusion & Respiratory Services
Best Option Healthcare
Big Sky I.V. Care of Montana
BioScrip
Boston Home Infusion
Brooks Health Care
C.A.I.S. Inc.
Cardiac Infusion Specialists
Cardiovascular Consultants
CarePro Health Services
Carter Healthcare, LLC
Chartwell Midwest Wisconsin
Chartwell Pennsylvania, LP
CHI Health at Home
Cleveland Clinic Home Infusion Pharmacy
Clinical Immunology Society
Clinical Resources Inc.
Clinical Specialties Inc.
Community Home Infusion
Complete Infusion Services
Compounding Pharmacy Solutions
ComSult Enterprises, LLC
Concept Medical Inc.
Continuum Home Health/University of Virginia Health System
ContinuumRx Services, Inc.
CSL Behring
Druid City Vital Care
EMED Technologies Corporation
Florida Hospital Home Infusion, LLP
Focus Rx Pharmacy Services Inc.
Fox Hills Pharmacy, Inc.
GBS|CIDP Foundation International

Genesis FirstMed Pharmacy
Gracious Heart Nursing Services, LLC
Grifols
Health & Wellness Compounding Pharmacy
Healthwise Pharmacy of Greenville, Inc.
Heart Failure Society of America
Heartland I.V. Care
Henry Ford Home Infusion
HICAP, Inc. A Medicare Consulting Service
Hobbs Pharmacy
Holly Hill Pharmacy & Infusion Services
Home Health United Xtra Care Pharmacy
Home I.V. Specialists, Inc.
Home Infusion Group, Inc.
Home Infusion Therapy Specialists, LLC
Home Medical Equipment Specialists
Home Parenteral Services
Horizon Healthcare Services
Immune Deficiency Foundation
InfuCare, Ltd.
Infusion Associates
Infusion Care of Delaware, LLC
Infusion Nurses Society
Infusion Solutions Inc.
Infusion, LLC
InfuSystem, Inc.
Innovatix, LLC
Integrated Medical Systems, Inc.
Intramed Plus Infusion Services
IV Services, LLC
Johns Hopkins Health System
Kabafusion Infusion Pharmacies
Kaup Pharmacy, Inc
Kedrion Biopharma
Lakeland Home Infusion
Lancos Consulting
Las Vegas Infusion Pharmacy
Legacy Health
Mahoning Valley Infusion Care
Managed Health Care Associates, Inc.
marcstranz, Inc.
MDS, LLC
Medical Accounts Receivable Solutions, Inc.
Medical Alternatives
Medical City Dallas Heart Failure Clinic
Medical Specialties Distributors
Medilink Homecare
Medi-Quip, Inc.
Mediware Information Systems, Inc.
Mediware Reimbursement Services, LLC
Methodist Home Health and Hospice
MiIVRx

Ministry Home Care Plus, Marshfield WI
Moog Medical Device Group
Munson Home Infusion Pharmacy
National Association of Specialty Pharmacy
National Community Pharmacists Association
National Home Infusion Association
NBN Infusions, Inc.
New England Life Care
Northwestern Memorial HealthCare
NPHC
NuCara Infusion Services
Oakstead Infusion Pharmacy, LLC
One Source Homecare
Option Care
OptionOne Pharmacy
Owens Healthcare
Paragon Healthcare, Inc.
Paragon Ventures
Park Nicollet Home Infusion
Partners In Home Care, Inc.
Patient Care America
PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Home Infusion
Pediatric Home Service
Pharmacare Hawaii, Inc.
Pharmacare Health Specialists
PharmaScript Inc.
PharMerica
PiPunited
Preferred Providers, Inc.
Premier Infusion Care
Premier Nursing Group
Prescription Center Homecare, Inc.
Professional Home IV
Professional Reimbursement Inc.
Profusion, LLC
ProMedica Home Infusion Pharmacy
PromptCare Home Infusion
Provista
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Qualitas Pharmacy services
Redline Specialty Pharmacy
Rush Home Infusion Solutions
Sartin's Vital Care Inc.
SBH Medical, LTD
Sentara Home Infusion Pharmacy Services
Shire
Simfarose Pharmacy
Smiths Medical
Soleo Health
Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System
Spectrum Infusion, Inc.
State Patient Access Coalition

Sterling Pharmacy
Summa Health Home Infusion
SwedishAmerican Infusion Services
TANYR Health Care, LLC
The Consortium of Independent Immunology Clinics
Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals
UCSD Home Infusion Pharmacy
University of Chicago Medicine
University of Iowa Community HomeCare
University of Maryland Medical Solutions Home Infusion
Valmed Home Health & Pharmacy Solutions
Vanderbilt Home Care Services
VGM Group
Via Christi Home Medical Infusion Pharmacy
Vital Care Compounder
Vital Care, Inc.
Vizient
Walgreen Co.
Wargo & Associates, LLC

cc: Chairman Orrin Hatch, Senate Finance Committee
Ranking Member Ron Wyden, Senate Finance Committee
Chairman Lamar Alexander, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee
Ranking Member Patty Murray, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee
Chairman Greg Walden, House Energy and Commerce Committee
Ranking Member Frank Pallone, House Energy and Commerce Committee
Chairman Kevin Brady, House Ways and Means Committee
Ranking Member Richard Neal, House Ways and Means Committee