



January 11, 2017

With the start of the new year, NHIA is taking immediate steps to address the impact to the home infusion field of the *21st Century Cures Act* which put into effect ASP reimbursement for Medicare Part B DME drugs on January 1, 2017, without implementing a services payment until 2021. At the same time, the Association is urging Congress to enact a services payment for infusion drug therapies delivered under Medicare Part D.

The *Cures Act* presents several challenges for Medicare Part B DME beneficiaries receiving home and specialty infusion therapies, as well as for the providers delivering the service. The four-year gap in reimbursement creates an unsustainable financial environment for many providers. Certain Medicare beneficiaries, particularly the most vulnerable patients, those receiving inotropic therapy for heart failure and subcutaneous immunoglobulin therapy for primary immunodeficiency diseases, may find their access to home infusion therapy in jeopardy.

The best way to get the attention of Congress, and to remedy the situation, is to make sure everyone on Capitol Hill understands the magnitude of the problem. Achieving success will require significant involvement of all segments of the home infusion field, as well as the health care community at large. The Association is launching a coalition sign-on letter to enable organizations including: patient advocacy groups; hospital systems; physician groups; national and local medical societies and associations; and home infusion providers and partners, to speak in a unified voice about the inequity of imposing an ASP-based reimbursement reduction without a commensurate payment for infusion services. The letter, included below this message, urges Congress to align the effective dates of ASP reimbursement for Part B DME infusion drugs with the infusion services payment in early 2017.

Please add your name to the [coalition letter](#). Indicate that you would like your organization's name listed on the letter and let us know the exact way you want your organization's name to appear. The deadline for submission is **January 24, 2017**. There is strength in numbers and we need robust participation.

In addition, encourage other infusion stakeholders to join the effort and add their organization to the list of supporters. Promote the campaign via Facebook and Twitter to reach an even wider audience. Tools to assist you in gaining the support of your partners can be found on NHIA's newly developed [ASP website](#). On the ASP website, you will also find information and tools to support your advocacy efforts, as well as resources to guide you through the changes brought about by the new ASP pricing.

I look forward to your participation in this important endeavor.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler J. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tyler Wilson
President & CEO