

August 3, 2017

The Honorable Mark Warner  
United States Senate  
703 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Johnny Isakson  
United States Senate  
131 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warner and Senator Isakson:

The undersigned organizations write to thank you for introducing the *Medicare Home Infusion Therapy Access Act of 2017* and request quick action in passing the bill. This legislation mirrors a section of H.R. 3178, which was passed by the House of Representatives on July 25, 2017.

The *Medicare Home Infusion Therapy Access Act of 2017* would create a temporary transitional payment beginning January 1, 2019, for unique clinical service requirements related to Medicare Part B Durable Medical Equipment (DME) infusion drugs. The legislation will allow Medicare beneficiaries to continue to access therapy in the home until a permanent services payment, contained in the *21st Century Cures Act*, is implemented in 2021. Providing this transitional clinical services payment will enable the home infusion community to continue to service some of Medicare's most fragile patients.

Under the *21st Century Cures Act*, Congress changed the Medicare program payment for home infusion medications to average sales price (ASP) +6 percent. This was intended to reflect more accurately the true costs of these medications starting in 2017. In addition, recognizing that there are unique clinical service requirements necessary to deliver infusion drugs in the home, Congress also created a new Medicare payment for home infusion professional services, but that provision does not take effect until 2021 thus creating a four-year gap. The lapse between the two provisions in the *Cures Act* needs to be addressed.

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 from 2017 to 2021, Medicare costs will increase as beneficiaries access their care in more expensive sites of care (emergency departments, hospitals, and skilled nursing facilities). In cases where beneficiaries are forced to receive treatment in other sites of care, they are put at risk for even more complicated and costly health problems. By passing the *Medicare Home Infusion Therapy Access Act of 2017*, Congress can ensure that these vulnerable patients have access to their lifesaving infusion therapies at home.

We support the *Medicare Home Infusion Therapy Access Act of 2017* and request that the Senate take quick action in passing this bill.

Sincerely,

Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC)  
Advanced Home Care  
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses  
American Association for Homecare  
American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN)

Amerita, Inc.  
Appalachian Home Infusion  
ARJ Infusion Services  
BD  
Best Option Healthcare PR, Inc.  
Big Sky IV Care  
BioScrip  
BJC Home Care Services Pharmacy  
Brooks Home I.V., Inc.  
CarePro Health Services  
CGH Medical Center  
Chartwell Midwest Wisconsin, LLC  
Chartwell Pennsylvania, LP  
Choice CriticalCare Inc.  
Consortium of Clinical Immunologists (CIIC)  
Coram, CVS Specialty Infusion Services  
Druid City Vital Care  
EMED Technologies  
EMZA USA LLC & DeliverIt Pharmacy Inc.  
Fairview Health Services  
Gates Healthcare Associates, Inc.  
Grifols  
Hobbs Pharmacy  
Home Health United Xtra Care Pharmacy  
Home Parenteral Services  
Horizon Healthcare Services  
ICU Medical Inc.  
Infusion Solutions, Inc.  
Innovatix  
INS  
Intra Pump Infusion Systems  
Intramed Plus  
IV Solutions, LLC  
Johns Hopkins Care Group  
Kaup Pharmacy, Inc.  
Lakeland Home Infusion  
Liberty Medical Specialties, Inc.  
Medical Accounts Receivable Solutions, Inc. (MARs)  
Medical Alternatives  
MK Infusion Pharmacy, LLC.  
MOOG, Inc.  
MSD  
Nation's Home Infusion  
NuCara IV Services  
One Source Homecare Services

OptiMed Infusion Services  
Option Care  
OptionOne Pharmacy  
Paragon Healthcare Inc.  
Pediatric Home Service  
Pharmacare Health Specialists  
PharmaScript Inc.  
Preferred Homecare  
Premier Infusion Care  
Premier Nursing Group, LLC  
Premier Point Home Health, Inc.  
PromptCare Home Infusion, LLC  
Provista  
Redline Specialty Pharmacy  
SBH Medical, Ltd.  
Sentara Home Infusion Pharmacy, Sentara HealthCare  
Simfarose Pharmaceutical Specialty  
Smiths Medical  
Soleo Health  
Spectrum Infusion, Inc.  
TANYR Healthcare  
The Immune Deficiency Foundation (IDF)  
The National Home Infusion Association (NHIA)  
Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals  
UnityPoint at Home  
University of Iowa Community HomeCare  
VGM Group Inc.  
Vital Care, Inc.  
Vizient, Inc.  
VNA Home Infusion Therapy Pharmacy

CC: Majority Leader Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader Charles Schumer  
Finance Committee Chairman Orin Hatch  
Finance Committee Ranking Member Ron Wyden  
Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)  
Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO)  
Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)  
Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH)  
Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD)  
Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS)  
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)  
Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA)  
Senator Angus King (I-ME)  
Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)

Senator David Perdue (R-GA)

Senator Rob Portman (R-OH)

Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS)

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)

Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS)