

September 3, 2024

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee  
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee  
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jason Smith  
Chair, House Ways & Means Committee  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member, House Ways & Means  
372 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Chair, House Energy & Commerce Committee  
1035 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member, House Energy & Commerce  
2107 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wyden, Ranking Member Crapo, Chair Smith, and Ranking Member Neal, Chair McMorris Rodgers, and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of health systems and hospitals across the country, we are writing to express our strong support for the Preserving Patient Access to Home Infusion Act ([H.R. 4104/S. 1976](#)) and to encourage you to expand the legislation to include coverage of supplies and professional services for IV anti-infectives. This essential legislation is crucial for addressing significant shortcomings in Medicare's home infusion benefit and ensuring that patients have access to essential IV treatments in the comfort of their homes. Administering IV anti-infectives at home is a widely accepted practice, as it enables patients to be discharged from hospitals sooner, freeing up valuable inpatient resources for more acute cases.

While commercial insurance plans have provided comprehensive coverage for home infusion therapy (HIT) services for anti-infectives and other therapies for decades, Medicare's home infusion benefit fails to adequately cover the professional services necessary for safe and effective home care. Further, despite widespread coverage among private insurance plans, Medicare's HIT benefit only offers coverage for drugs using an external infusion pump for administration. We support the efforts of the National Home Infusion Association to not only pass the Preserving Patient Access to Home Infusion Act, but also to expand the benefit to include IV anti-infectives, with or without the use of a mechanical pump for administration.

Patients with serious infections, cancer, heart failure, immune system diseases, and other conditions requiring IV medications should have the option to receive these treatments at home. The need for a comprehensive Medicare benefit for home infusion, particularly for anti-infectives, is a long-held position dating back to 2010, when the Government Accountability Office issued their findings on a study of home infusion.<sup>1</sup> Home infusion therapy is not only a more comfortable and convenient option for patients, but also reduces the risk of infections and improves overall patient outcomes.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-10-426.pdf>

Hospitals and health systems are facing unprecedented pressures to manage capacity and deliver high-quality care efficiently. By expanding Medicare's home infusion benefit to include IV anti-infectives, we can safely transition many patients from hospital settings to their homes, thereby reducing the burden on our healthcare facilities and ensuring that patients receive appropriate post-acute care. This transition is not only feasible but also supported by extensive evidence showing that home infusion therapy can be delivered safely and effectively with the right professional support.

The Preserving Patient Access to Home Infusion Act makes necessary technical corrections to the current statute, ensuring appropriate payment for home infusion services and recognizing the extensive work performed by the professionals involved in patient care. By including IV anti-infectives in the benefit, this legislation would align Medicare policy with the practices of commercial insurers, who have long recognized the value of home infusion therapy in improving patient care and reducing healthcare costs. Moreover, enhanced access to home infusion therapies can result in significant cost savings for the Medicare program, as studies have consistently shown that home infusion is a cost-effective alternative to other post-acute care settings.

We urge you to support and prioritize the passage of the Preserving Patient Access to Home Infusion Act and to expand the legislation to ensure comprehensive coverage of IV anti-infectives. By doing so, you will not only improve the quality of life for Medicare beneficiaries but also enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of our healthcare delivery system.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We look forward to working with you to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries have access to the treatments they need — both within the walls of our facilities and beyond.

Sincerely,

Baystate Health  
Dartmouth Hitchcock  
Eastern Maine Medical Center/Northern Lights Healthcare  
Jefferson Health  
The Johns Hopkins Health System  
M Health Fairview  
Oregon Health & Science University Health Services  
Penn Medicine  
UMass Health System  
University of California  
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center