



HEALTH-SYSTEM PHARMACISTS

CARE FOR PATIENTS IN ALL
HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

YourPharmacist.org

ashp
pharmacists advancing healthcare®

We're Your Pharmacist

The pharmacists who work in hospitals, outpatient clinics, and physician practices in your district and state provide critical care to your constituents.

All 50 states license pharmacists to manage aspects of patient care in collaborative practice arrangements with physicians, and 30 states permit licensed pharmacists to independently prescribe at least one medication.

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Managing all aspects of medication regimens, including ordering tests and initiating therapy
- Monitoring patient responses to their medications and making necessary adjustments
- Partnering with physicians to select the right medications and treatments for patients
- Confirming patients' medication histories
- Educating patients about their medications
- Advising nurses on proper administration of medications
- Providing options to make patients' access to their medication easier and more affordable

Pharmacists use their clinical knowledge to manage chemotherapy, medications to treat opioid use disorder, and other therapies so patients have the best possible outcomes.

As the medication specialists in hospitals and health systems, pharmacists are key members of healthcare teams, practicing alongside physicians, nurses, and other health professionals.

ASHP, the largest association of pharmacy professionals in the United States, is committed to ensuring patients have continued access to pharmacists' services and critical and affordable medications in their communities.

We urge you to advance the following legislative priorities to **improve access to pharmacist services**, support residency training to strengthen the **pharmacy workforce**, and **safeguard access to 340B prices** that are necessary to support care for our patients.



Co-sponsor and Call for Passage of the Main Street Pharmacy Access Act (H.R. 3164) / Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act (S. 2426)

Many seniors rely on pharmacists as a trusted and accessible source of care and support. Unfortunately, seniors in the Medicare program are denied coverage for care pharmacists are licensed to provide and which is often covered for patients on Medicaid or commercial insurance.

The Main Street Pharmacy Access Act / Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act would **provide seniors with access** to pharmacist-provided testing and treatment and/or vaccines for respiratory conditions such as influenza, respiratory syncytial virus, strep throat, and pneumococcal disease in states where pharmacists are licensed to provide these services.



Co-sponsor and Call for Passage of the Rebuild America's Health Care Schools Act (H.R. 1708/S. 1087)

Residencies train pharmacists to **manage increasingly specialized medication therapies** necessary to care for our patients. Unfortunately, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has refused to tell pharmacy residency programs how to **comply with** the requirements and is pulling back funding.

Despite this lack of guidance, CMS claims that common-sense practices to reduce training costs, like sharing payroll, faculty, and educational resources across training sites, are not permitted. CMS rules also deny funding for advanced training in clinical specialties, the area where the greatest need for specialized training exists.

The **Rebuild America's Health Care Schools Act** would require CMS to clarify the requirements pharmacy, nursing, and allied health residency programs must meet to receive funding and allow funds to be used for training in clinical specialties.



Sponsor Legislation to Stop Medicare from Cutting Payments to Safety-Net Providers in the 340B Program

CMS recently announced plans to cut Medicare payments to safety-net hospitals that purchase medications through the 340B Drug Pricing Program. **These cuts will significantly reduce funding available to support patient care.**

The nation's 340B hospitals provide a disproportionate share of uncompensated care for uninsured and Medicaid patients and rely on 340B discounts to subsidize these services. Combined with recent reductions in Medicaid coverage, these Medicare cuts will undermine our ability to care for the patients in our communities.

We urge you to **introduce the following legislation** to prevent Medicare from targeting 340B safety-net providers for payment cuts:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall not reduce, adjust or otherwise differentiate any payment amount under title XVIII of the Social Security Act on the basis that an entity is a covered entity as defined in section 340B of the Public Health Service Act or acquires a drug under such section.

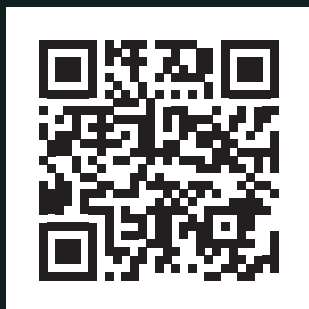
ABOUT ASHP

ASHP is the largest association of pharmacy professionals in the United States, representing over 65,000 pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians in all patient care settings, including hospitals, ambulatory clinics, and health-system community pharmacies. For over 80 years, ASHP has championed innovation in pharmacy practice, advanced education and professional development, and served as a steadfast advocate for members and patients. In addition, ASHP is an accrediting body for pharmacy residency and technician training programs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Frank Kolb, ASHP's director of federal legislative affairs, at fkolb@ashp.org or 301-664-8806.

For additional details on our key priorities, please scan the QR code.



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