

November 1, 2019

Dear Georgia Congressional Delegation:

Ensuring a stable Medicare program is vital, especially the Georgia seniors and those with disabilities that you represent. This is even more true as various proposals threaten to undermine the healthcare system. Georgia's seniors and Georgians with disabilities should be provided with the peace of mind that their elected officials are working to enhance their healthcare rather than inhibit access.

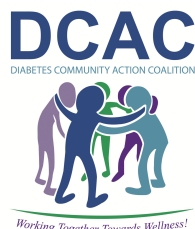
Some recent, troubling proposals have not been made with patients in mind. These include instituting international reference pricing and allowing the government to implement inflation penalties. If these proposals are passed, they could lead to restricted access and fewer treatment options for seniors, ultimately leading to negative impacts on health outcomes.

There are some proposals, however, that will benefit patients. The first is an out-of-pocket cap for Medicare beneficiaries. Lowering costs through an out-of-pocket cap in Part D will help improve health outcomes as improved affordability leads to increased adherence to treatment regimens.

A second proposal that will benefit Medicare patients is by fixing the current rebate system, which is harmful to patients. As it stands, discounts for prescription medicines go directly to middlemen, rather than to patients. If the savings were passed along to patients, this would be another way to lower patient spending on medicines and ensure that patients are able to access the medicines they need which will lead to improved health outcomes, like the out-of-pocket cap.

We urge you and your colleagues to protect Georgia's Medicare beneficiaries by rejecting harmful proposals such as the international pricing index and other government price setting proposals. We hope you will support reforms that will truly benefit patients like an out-of-pocket cap and passing savings along to patients. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to protecting Georgia's seniors and disabled.

Sincerely,



Advocates for
Responsible Care