

March 3, 2021

Dear Members of the Utah Congressional Delegation,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and the many constituents we represent, please urge the Biden Administration to withdraw the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation's (CMMI) recent changes to the Medicare Part D Payment Modernization Model, changes that could drastically reduce access to medications for seniors and Americans with disabilities.

On January 19, 2021, the former Administration announced changes to the Medicare Part D Payment Modernization Model Demonstration that would allow insurance companies to make drastic changes to their formularies and roll back current protections.

Currently, CMS requires all Part D plans to cover two drugs per class and virtually all medications under the six protected classes. This broad coverage allows providers and their patients to make decisions that work best for them. CMMI's updates would allow plans participating in the demo to scale back coverage on their formularies of all drug classes from two to one in each class, including five of the six protected classes; the HIV protection will be rolled back in 2023.

We recognize the need to look at ways to lower the healthcare costs in our country, but this change in the demo would do nothing to lower that cost to the patients. Seniors and Americans with disabilities depend on Medicare Part D to access the medications they need to lead full and healthy lives. Rolling back their access to the medications will likely limit their access to needed medications and could result in less effective treatment regimens.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you to address these important patient issues.

Sincerely,

BioUtah
Centro Civico Mexicano
First Step House
Tim Grange, Spine Orthopedic and Pain Center
International Cancer Advocacy Network
Northern Utah Coalition
Ogden NAACP
Project Success Coalition
David Sundwall, M.D., Rocky Mountain Care

SURVIVEit
Utah Support Advocates for Recovery Awareness

