

Messaging for House Energy & Commerce (E&C) Committee Hearing Topics

- **Site-neutral payments.** *Congress should reject site-neutral payment cuts that could force hundreds of outpatient clinics to close or cut back on critical services, resulting in reduced patient access and job losses, especially in rural and other underserved communities.*

Hospital outpatient departments (HOPDs) should not be paid the same Medicare rate as a standalone physician office. HOPDs treat sicker and more complex patients and comply with more licensing and regulatory requirements as part of their unique role in providing care.

- **340B Drug Pricing Program.** *Congress should reject efforts that create significant new reporting requirements for 340B hospitals.*

The 340B program is crucial to helping hospitals stretch limited federal resources and expand health services to patients and communities. In addition, any measures that increase transparency for 340B providers also should include greater transparency for drug companies.

Please note that Rep. Matsui has been our strongest champion on protecting the 340B program.

- **Physician-owned Hospitals.** *Congress should oppose changes that would either expand the number of physician-owned hospitals or ease restrictions on the growth of existing facilities.*

Studies show that physician-owned hospitals cherry pick patients who are less medically complex and more financially lucrative and provide limited or no emergency services.

- **Medicaid DSH Cuts.** *Congress should enact legislation that would delay for two years cuts to Medicaid DSH hospitals scheduled to begin October 1.*

Hospitals care for a significant number of low-income, uninsured and Medicaid patients, and the Medicaid DSH program is critical to maintaining access to essential services for these individuals.

Please note that Reps. Barragán, Cárdenas, Eshoo, Matsui, Obernolte, Peters, Ruiz (all California E&C members) are supportive of delaying the scheduled Medicaid DSH cuts. Please thank them for their support.