

ACCC Statement on the Administration's Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Reform Proposal

On Thursday, October 25, 2018, the Trump Administration came forward with their highly anticipated follow-up to drug pricing reform efforts with the release of the [Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking \(ANPRM\) for an International Pricing Index \(IPI\) model](#) from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

As an organization representing all members of the multidisciplinary cancer care team, the Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC) is concerned broadly about the impact of the proposal on the entire cancer care delivery infrastructure and particularly on those programs and practices that see a high percentage of Medicare, Medicare only, and dual-eligible patients.

The proposed program, focused on drug spending in Medicare Part B rather than assisting cancer care professionals in building the infrastructure needed to retain quality and value in their cancer programs, will have an immediate and adverse impact on cancer patients and survivors. ACCC believes that the proposed overhaul of Medicare Part B reimbursement will restrict oncology professionals' ability to appropriately provide cancer patients with access to comprehensive care and therapy options.

ACCC looks forward to the opportunity to provide comments on the ANPRM and the IPI payment model. The Administration has slated release of the formal proposed rule for Spring 2019. In the interim, on behalf of more than 24,000 members of cancer care teams across the United States, we urge policymakers take heed: this policy has the potential to drastically hamper access to vital patient care and harm innovation for cancer care treatment. We look forward to working with CMS to ensure that any model put forth to the public is voluntary, maintains appropriate safeguards for access to patient care, and drives increased value-based propositions for the oncology community.

For more information, please utilize the [CMS fact sheet](#) for the proposal on this payment model and review the entire Advance Notice of Proposed Rule Making (ANPRM) [here](#).