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## Welcome to the Grassroots Edition of AMCP's Legislative & Regulatory Briefing!

This is the final *Legislative & Regulatory Briefing* of the year as we wrap up 2018. The past 12 months have proven to be a busy time, and while lawmakers must still act on an appropriation bill for FDA funding, which is set to run out Dec. 21, time has run out on most other legislation in the 115th Congress. We have seen some triumphs, such as the passage of H.R. 6 – the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, to combat the opioid epidemic. But much work remains to be done, including aligning substance use disorder record sharing with HIPAA. AMCP will continue to advocate for this, and other opportunities to advance the work of managed care pharmacy in the next Congress, set to convene Jan. 3, 2019. In the meantime, let's look back at the advocacy efforts undertaken and introduce our State Advocacy Coordinators who members can be sure to hear from in 2019.



## Grassroots in 2018

### Advocacy on Many Fronts

AMCP initiated a variety of federal and state advocacy efforts in 2018, including several that affected all members, and others that targeted specific House or Senate Committees, or a specific state legislature. In total, we sent six advocacy alerts, with 4 federal alerts and 2 state-based alerts. AMCP members in Illinois and California participated in state advocacy alerts to oppose a bill prohibiting formulary changes in a plan year, and support an electronic prescribing bill in each respective state. The federal alerts covered a range of topics such as support for H.R. 2026 — the Pharmaceutical Information Exchange Act (PIE); support for S. 974 – the CREATES Act; and support and

### Advocacy Tip

Remember to update your email with AMCP to receive our advocacy alerts! You can also forward alerts to a separate email if you don't feel comfortable advocating using your work account.

requests for specific provisions in the opioid package, H.R. 6 – SUPPORT Patients and Communities Act. Almost 450 messages were sent to members of Congress on H.R. 6 over 2 advocacy alerts. This helped to ensure the inclusion of an AMCP supported provision to allow Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage plans to suspend payment of suspected fraudulent claims pending an investigation by the HHS Secretary. While these are commendable efforts, next year we hope to continue to increase participation on advocacy alerts for members. A big part of this increase will be due to work our State Advocacy Coordinators carry out.

## 2019 State Advocacy Coordinators

State Advocacy Coordinators (S.A.C.s) are AMCP's boots-on-the-ground members who support our state advocacy efforts by keeping a pulse on their state's legislation and legislatures. S.A.C.s also keep members in their state informed of AMCP's action alerts both at the state and federal levels. In addition, these members may interact with state legislatures to bring the managed care pharmacy perspective to the health care debate.

So all members can get to know them better, we asked each S.A.C. a few questions, such as why they got involved in advocacy, or some of their favorite resources to stay informed! Click on the links below to read their responses – listed alphabetical by state.

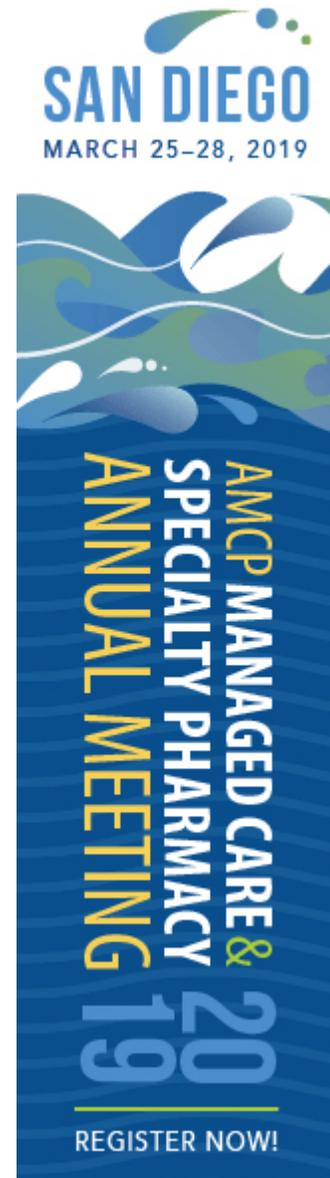
### S.A.C. Part 1 [\(click to enlarge\)](#)

<p><b>ALABAMA</b></p>  <p>Greg Kitchens, PharmD Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>ARIZONA</b></p>  <p>Rita Bylandt, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>CALIFORNIA</b></p>  <p>Elizabeth Lee, PharmD Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>COLORADO</b></p>  <p>Rita Kuylenstierna, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>CONNECTICUT</b></p>  <p>Daniel Shaw, PharmD Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>DELAWARE</b></p>  <p>Debra Lantieri, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>FLORIDA</b></p>  <p>Maura Egan, PharmD, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>
<p><b>GEORGIA</b></p>  <p>Shelvia Barber, PharmD Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>HAWAII</b></p>  <p>See Hodges, PharmD, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>ILLINOIS</b></p>  <p>Wendy Reddy, PharmD Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>KENTUCKY</b></p>  <p>Wendy Reddy, PharmD Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>MICHIGAN</b></p>  <p>Manjula Jambhale, PharmD, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>MINNESOTA</b></p>  <p>Rickard Zamboni, PharmD, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>NEW JERSEY</b></p>  <p>Antoinette Manti, PharmD, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>

### S.A.C. Part 2 [\(click to enlarge\)](#)

<p><b>NEW YORK</b></p>  <p>Shirley H. Davis Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>OHIO</b></p>  <p>Rita Kuylenstierna, MS, MBA, MBA and Carlie Armstrong, PharmD, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>OKLAHOMA</b></p>  <p>Terry Coffman, OTRP Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>
<p><b>TEXAS</b></p>  <p>Paul Lohmeyer, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>VIRGINIA</b></p>  <p>Janet Kelly, PharmD, MS, MBA Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>	<p><b>WISCONSIN</b></p>  <p>Janet Kelly, MS, PharmD, MS Q: What has motivated you to become involved in advocacy? A: I have been involved in advocacy for several years now. I have been a pharmacist for over 20 years and have seen the impact of the opioid crisis on our patients and community. I want to do what I can to help.</p>

If you are interested in becoming an S.A.C. for your state or want to contact your S.A.C., you can find more information here: <http://www.amcp.org/sac/> or reach out to AMCP's Legislative Analyst, Elisabeth Brisley, at [ebbrisley@amcp.org](mailto:ebbrisley@amcp.org).



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# Regulatory Update

## Proposed Rule on Modernizing Part D and Medicare Advantage

*AMCP Seeks Feedback on Recent CMS New Proposed Rule on Modernizing Part D and Medicare Advantage to Lower Drug Prices and Reduce Out-of-Pocket Expenses*

On Nov. 26, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a [new proposed rule](#) outlining potential policies intended to lower out-of-pocket costs for Medicare beneficiaries and help Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plans (MA-PDs) plans and Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs) negotiate lower prescription drug costs. Numerous provisions in the proposed rule are intended to implement strategies set in the [Administration's Blueprint to Lower Drug Prices and Reduce Out-of-Pocket Costs](#) (Drug Pricing Blueprint) released in May 2018.

A detailed summary and analysis of the proposed rule to include key sections that may be of interest to AMCP members is located on the [AMCP website](#). AMCP plans to comment on the new proposed rule and is seeking feedback from its members to inform the comments that will be submitted to CMS. You may provide feedback via email to Afton Wagner, AMCP Director of Regulatory Affairs, at [awagner@amcp.org](mailto:awagner@amcp.org) by **Jan. 9, 2019** on any of the provisions included in the proposed rule. Comments can be submitted to CMS through Jan. 25, 2019.

## Regulation to Require Drug Pricing Transparency

*AMCP Submits Comments to CMS on Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Regulation to Require Drug Pricing Transparency*

On Dec. 17, AMCP submitted comments to CMS on new proposed rulemaking that would require prescription drug manufacturers to disclose the list prices for U.S. prescription drugs in direct-to-consumer (DTC) television ads in an effort to provide greater transparency to list prices set by drug manufacturers. The proposed rule would require DTC advertisements for prescription drug and biological products paid for by Medicare or Medicaid to include the Wholesale Acquisition Cost if it is greater than \$35 for a month's supply or the usual course of therapy. Prices will be updated quarterly.

In our comments, AMCP supported CMS's efforts to provide better drug price transparency and believes that it is a step in the right direction to address better health care decision making when patients are presented with cost information. However, we do not encourage advertising aimed at consumers that promotes the use of specific prescription drug products and we expressed concern with how CMS's proposal, if finalized, will truly benefit patients if it does not include information specific to their individual needs and prescription drug benefit design. AMCP's final comments are available on the [AMCP website](#).

