

**Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act**

**Partner Kit**

**A picture containing text, person, indoor, computer

Description automatically generated**

This kit provides basic information, suggested social media messaging and photos your organization can use to promote and generate support for the Reducing Hereditary   
Cancer Act (H.R. 1526 / S. 765)

**Bill Basics & Social Media**

**Bill Basics**

The Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act ( [H.R.1526](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1526?s=1&r=17) / [S.765](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/765)) is bipartisan, bicameral legislation that aims to modify the Medicare statutes to enable coverage of potentially life-saving genetic counseling, testing, cancer screening and risk-reducing interventions.

As recommended by National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) or similar medical guidelines, it will enable coverage of genetic counseling and testing for Medicare beneficiaries with a:

* Family history of a hereditary cancer gene mutation, or
* Personal or family history suspicious for hereditary cancer

For Medicare beneficiaries who have an inherited genetic mutation causing an increased risk of cancer, the law will enable coverage of guideline-recommended:

* Increased cancer screenings (e.g., breast MRI, upper endoscopy)
* Risk-reducing surgeries (e.g., removal of ovaries and fallopian tubes)

**Why is this legislation needed?**

Under existing Medicare guidelines, only people with “signs, symptoms, complaints, or personal histories of disease” meet the criteria for coverage of medical services. Recognizing the value of cancer prevention and early detection, in recent years Congress has passed legislation allowing for coverage of cancer screenings (e.g., mammograms and PSA tests) for the “average risk” population, and specific screenings (e.g., colonoscopies every 2 years) for some people considered high-risk. Unfortunately, many guideline-recommended screenings and risk-reduction measures recommended for individuals at increased risk of cancer are not covered.

Medicare covers genetic testing only for beneficiaries already diagnosed with cancer, regardless of family cancer history or a known genetic mutation in the family. If a person without cancer learns they have one of these mutations (an unaffected carrier or “previvor”), many medically necessary cancer screenings and risk-reducing interventions are not reimbursed by Medicare.

With the increasing accessibility of genetic testing, a growing number of Medicare beneficiaries learn they have an inherited genetic mutation that increases their risk of cancer, but they aren’t able to access the needed services to prevent or detect cancer earlier, when it is easier and less expensive to treat. Similarly, many people learn about their increased cancer risk prior to Medicare eligibility and mistakenly assume that high-risk screenings and preventive measures will be covered. Ultimately, they face a dilemma: forgo the guideline-recommended screenings and interventions or shoulder the cost for tests such as annual breast MRIs and pancreatic cancer screenings, or risk-reducing surgery such as hysterectomy.

The Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act will remedy this Medicare coverage gap, ensuring that beneficiaries have access to guideline-recommended, evidence-based screening and preventive services. Ultimately, this will save lives and money by preventing or detecting cancers earlier in those at high risk due to a hereditary predisposition. It will also reduce health disparities by addressing non-coverage as a barrier to appropriate care.

**Facebook and LinkedIn Messaging**

The Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act is bipartisan federal legislation that aims to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries have access to guideline-recommended genetic counseling, testing, cancer screenings, and preventive care. Help us make these lifesaving services accessible. Email your members of Congress asking them to support this important bill. <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

Outdated Medicare policies prevent coverage of potentially life-saving preventive care for high-risk individuals. The Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act aims to remedy this by improving Medicare beneficiary access to genetic counseling, testing, cancer screenings, and preventive services. Please take 2 minutes to email your members of Congress asking them to support this important bill. <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

President Biden relaunched the Cancer Moonshot with the goal of reducing the death rate from cancer by at least 50% over the next 25 years, and a **call to action on cancer screening. The Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act will contribute to this effort** by improving Medicare beneficiary access to genetic counseling, testing, cancer screenings, and preventive care**.** <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

[Organization Name] is pleased to support the Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act, federal legislation that aims to ensure high-risk Medicare beneficiaries have access to guideline-recommended genetic counseling, testing, cancer screenings, and preventive care. Help advocate for people affected by hereditary cancers. Contact your lawmakers today and ask them to cosponsor this important legislation. <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

Do you have Medicare? Have you or a family member been denied coverage of genetic testing, screenings or surgeries related to hereditary cancer mutations? Email your lawmakers and ask them to cosponsor the Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act so Medicare can meet the needs of people at risk of hereditary cancers. <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

Did you know Medicare doesn’t cover genetic counseling, testing, high-risk cancer screenings or preventive interventions needed by many people at risk of hereditary cancers? Contact your lawmakers today and tell them this needs to change! Ask them to support the Reducing Hereditary Cancer Act. <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

**Twitter Messaging**

The #ReducingHereditaryCancerAct is bipartisan legislation that will help #Medicare beneficiaries access genetic counseling, testing, cancer screenings & preventive care. Ask lawmakers to support #HR4110 & #S3565 today! <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

Cancer prevention & early detection save lives! The #ReducingHereditaryCancerAct will help #Medicare beneficiaries access genetic counseling, testing, cancer screenings & preventive care. Support #HR1526 & #S765! <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

Outdated #Medicare policies prevent patients from accessing potentially life-saving care. Act now to support the #ReducingHereditaryCancerAct & improve access to genetic counseling, testing, cancer screenings & preventive care! #HR1526 #S765 <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

[Organization Name] is supporting the #ReducingHereditaryCancerAct to ensure that #Medicare covers guideline-recommended genetic counseling, testing, cancer screenings & preventive care. Join us in asking lawmakers to cosponsor this crucial legislation. <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

#Medicare doesn’t cover genetic testing, high-risk cancer screenings or preventive surgeries needed by many people w/#hereditarycancer risk. Advocate for change & help people at high-risk of cancer! Support the #ReducingHereditaryCancerAct. <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>

Has #Medicare denied coverage of genetic testing, high-risk cancer screenings or preventive surgeries? Ask federal lawmakers to support HR1526 & S765 so Medicare can meet the needs of people at increased risk of hereditary cancers. <https://tinyurl.com/ActRHCA>  
#hereditarycancer

**Images to Accompany Posts**

See related image folders for various sizes and layouts appropriate for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.



A white building with columns and a flag on top

Description automatically generated with medium confidence