



November 28, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Republican Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader Schumer, and Republican Leader McConnell:

As precision medicine becomes standard of care to treat many diseases and conditions, it is critical that Medicare beneficiaries have access to genetic counselors, as they have specialized training in medical genetics and counseling to offer comprehensive genetic services to patients.

Genetic counselors are particularly important for Medicare beneficiaries with cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurological disorders, as they help these patients understand genetic testing options and facilitate communication between patients and other providers that manage health issues with a genetic component. In short, genetic counselors empower patients and providers to make informed decisions.

Many commercial health plans cover and reimburse genetic counselors, as research demonstrates improved outcomes in terms of quality and cost. In fact, Medicare currently reimburses genetic counseling when provided by other Medicare practitioners. S. 1450/H.R. 2144, the “Access to Genetic Counselor Services Act”, takes a measured approach to modernize Medicare to catch up with the innovation of genetics and genomic medicine. The legislation will allow the Medicare program to reimburse genetic counselors directly, which will in turn improve access for everyone to the services of genetic counselors.

Improving access to genetic counselors will help ensure appropriate genetic testing, provide critical knowledge to beneficiaries to fully understand complex test results, and further integrate genetic counselors into the healthcare team. We expect the legislation will enhance team-based care coordination for Medicare beneficiaries, and may also save money for beneficiaries and the Medicare program.

We urge you to include the “Access to Genetic Counselor Services Act” in an end of year legislative package so that Medicare beneficiaries can better access these critical services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

ACT Genetics
Advocate Aurora Health
Advocate Genetics
Alexion, AstraZeneca Rare Disease
AliveAndKickn
ALS Association
Ambry Genetics
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Kidney Fund
American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons
American Society of Human Genetics
Amyloidosis Foundation
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Arizona Oncology
Arkansas Association of Cancer Professionals
Association for Creatine Deficiencies
Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC)
Association for Utah Genetic Counselors
Avellino
AXYS
Baylor College of Medicine
Baystate Health
BillionToOne, Inc. (BillionToOne Laboratory)
Boise State MSGC Department
Boise State University
Born a Hero, Research Foundation
Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine
BRCA Advanced & Other Hereditary Cancers Journal Club
C. R. Wood Cancer Center at Glens Falls Hospital
Cancer Partners of Nebraska, PC
Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association
Child Neurology Foundation

Children's Wisconsin
Choroideremia Research Foundation
City of Hope National Medical Center
Cleveland Clinic Genomic Medicine Institute
Clover Genetics
Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Gastrointestinal Cancers
Colon Cancer Coalition
Colon Cancer Foundation
Colorado Cancer Coalition
Colorectal Cancer Alliance
Columbia University Irving Medical Center
COMBINEDBrain, Inc.
Concert Genetics
Cooley Dickinson Hospital
Corewell Health System
CSNK2A1 Foundation
Cure Sanfilippo Foundation
DCM Foundation
Delaware Society for Clinical Oncology (DSCO)
Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development, University of Minnesota
Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio
Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati
Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Ohio
Down Syndrome Association of the Valley
Empire State Hematology & Oncology Society
EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases
Executive Frameworks, Ltd.
Family Connection of South Carolina
Family Heart Foundation
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Florida Association of Genetic Counselors
FOD (Fatty Oxidation Disorders) Family Support Group

FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer
Empowered
FSHD Society
Fulgent Genetics
Geisinger
GeneMatters
Genentech, a member of the Roche group
Genetic Support Foundation
GENETICS TASK FORCE OF NEW
YORK, INC.
Genome Creative
Genome Medical
GeriatRx
GI Cancers Alliance
Greenwood Genetic Center
Grey Genetics
Gundersen Health System
Hawaii Pacific Health
Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology
HD Reach
Helix Op Co, LLC
Help 4 HD International
Hereditary Neuropathy Foundation
Howard University Cancer Center
HSHS St. Vincent Hospital and St. Mary's
Medical Center Hospitals
Human Genetics Association of New Jersey
Huntington's Disease Genetics
ICAN, International Cancer Advocacy
Network
Idaho Society of Clinical Oncology
Identify
Illumina, Inc.
Indiana Hemophilia and Thrombosis Center,
Inc.
Indiana Network of Genetic Counselors
Indiana Oncology Society
InformedDNA
INHERET, Inc.
International 22q11.2 Foundation
International WAGR Syndrome Association,
IWSA
Invitae

Iowa Oncology Society
Jefferson ALS Center
Johns Hopkins Medicine
Kaiona Counseling, LLC
Kansas Society of Clinical Oncology
Karmanos Cancer Institute
KCNQ2 Cure Alliance
Kennedy Krieger Institute
Kentucky Society of Clinical Oncology
Loma Linda University Health
Louisiana Oncology Society
Lynch Syndrome International
Markey Cancer Center, University of
Kentucky
Maryland DC Society of Clinical Oncology
Massachusetts Society of Clinical
Oncologists
M-CM Network
Medical College of Wisconsin
Medical Oncology Association of Southern
California
Meharry Medical College
Memorial Sloan Kettering
Metis Genetics
MGH Institute of Health Professions
Miami Valley Down Syndrome
Michigan Association of Genetic
Counselors, Inc. (MAGC)
Michigan Medicine (part of University of
Michigan, Ann Arbor)
Middlesex Health
Minnesota Cancer Alliance
Minnesota Genetic Counselor Association
Minnesota Oncology
Minnesota Society of Clinical Oncology
Mission Health Fullerton Genetics Center
Mississippi Metabolics Foundation
Missouri Cancer Associates
Missouri Oncology Society
Moffitt Cancer Center
Montana State Oncology Society
Muscular Dystrophy Association
My Gene Counsel

Myriad Genetics, Inc.
Natera, Inc
National Comprehensive Cancer Network
National PKU News
National Society of Genetic Counselors
Nebraska Hematology-Oncology
NERGG, Inc. (New England Regional Genetics Group)
Nevada Oncology Society
New England Cancer Specialists
New Mexico Society of Clinical Oncology
New York Oncology Hematology
New York State Genetics Task Force
No Stomach For Cancer
North Carolina Medical Genetics Association
North Carolina Oncology Association
North Memorial Health
Northern California Coalition of Genetic Counselors
Northern Nevada Genetic counseling
Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society
NorthShore University HealthSystem
NothingPink
Ochsner Health
Ohio Association of Genetic Counselors
Ohio Hematology Oncology Society
OhioHealth
Olaris, Inc.
Oncocyte
Oncology Hematology Care, Inc.
Oregon Health & Science University
Parkinson's Foundation
Pathways for Rare and Orphan Studies
Penn State Health
Pennsylvania Association of Genetic Counselors (PAGC)
Perinatal Quality Foundation
Personalized Medicine Coalition
PharmGKB (Pharmacogenomics Knowledgebase)
Pheo Para Alliance
Piedmont Healthcare
PLUGS (Patient-centered Laboratory Utilization Guidance Services)
Prisma Health
Providence
PTEN Hamartoma Tumor Syndrome Foundation
Quest Diagnostics
Rare New England
RARE-X
RASopathies Network
Regional Obstetrical Consultants
Remember The Girls
Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers
Rocky Mountain Oncology Society
Saint Francis Hospital Cancer Institute
Saint Louis University Department of Pediatrics
Saint Louis University School of Medicine
Sanford Health
Sema4
Sharsheret, Inc.
South Carolina Oncology Society
Southeastern Regional Genetics Group
Southern California Genetic Counselors
Southern Cancer Center
Susan Dickerson
Sutter Health
Swedish Cancer Institute
Synapticure
SYNGAP1 Foundation
Tennessee Genetic Counselors Association
Tennessee Oncology Practice Society
Texas Oncology
Texas Society of Clinical Oncology
Texas Society of Genetic Counselors
The Arizona Clinical Oncology Society
The Brooklyn Hospital Center
The Ehlers-Danlos Society
The Jefferson Comprehensive Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center

The Ohio State University Comprehensive
Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and
Solove Research Institute
The Ohio State University Genetic
Counseling Program
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical
Center
The RUNX1 Research Program
The Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes
(SADS) Foundation
The Texas Society of Clinical Oncology
The US Oncology Network
The US Oncology Network GREAT
program
ThinkGenetic Foundation
Thomas Jefferson University hospital
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital-
Stroke Division
TSC Alliance
Unified Patient Network
United Leukodystrophy Foundation
UnityPoint Health
University of Alabama at Birmingham
(UAB) Health System
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Genetic Counseling Program
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
University of California, San Francisco
University of California, Los Angeles
(UCLA) Health

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical
Campus
University of Maryland School of Medicine
University of Miami
University of Mississippi Medical Center
University of Nebraska Medical Center
(UNMC)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Rochester Medical Center
University of South Florida
University of Vermont Health Network
University of Wisconsin Hospitals and
Clinics
USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Virginia Association of Genetic Counselors
(VaAGC)
Virginia Association of Hematologists and
Oncologists
Virginia Cancer Specialists
Virginia Hospital Center Health System
Watershed DNA
West Virginia Oncology Society
Wisconsin Association of Hematology and
Oncology
Wisconsin genetic counselors association
(WIGCA)
Wyoming State Oncology Society