



December 20, 2018

The Honorable Seema Verma  
Administrator  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Department of Health and Human Service  
200 Independence Avenue, Southwest  
Washington, DC 20201

RE: CMS-5528-ANPRM

Dear Administrator Verma:

The Campaign for Sustainable Rx Pricing (CSRxP) is a nonpartisan coalition of organizations committed to fostering an informed discussion on sustainable drug pricing and to developing bipartisan, market-based solutions that promote competition, transparency, and value to improve affordability while maintaining patient access to innovative prescription drugs that can improve health outcomes and save lives. Our members represent organizations including consumers, hospitals, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, employers, pharmacy benefit managers and insurance providers.

Prescription drug prices for U.S. consumers are out of control and continue to grow at unsustainable rates. One in four Americans cannot afford their medications. Excessively high prices place significant burden on taxpayers and unfairly jeopardize the financial security, health and wellbeing of U.S. patients and their families every day. Too often patients are faced with difficult choices of purchasing the medications they need to get well and stay healthy and buying groceries for their families. Actions must be taken to rein in out-of-control drug prices so that patients do not have to face such unfair choices.

CSRxP commends the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for its strong and clear recognition that high drug prices threaten U.S. consumers and taxpayers every day and the agency's fervent commitment to take actions to lower these needlessly high prices. We appreciate the Administration's willingness to consider unique solutions to address this critical problem and its creativity to interject market-based solutions into the Medicare program. As you consider policies to rein in out-of-control drug prices, we respectfully request that the Administration ensure protections for vital programs like 340B. CSRxP looks forward to our continued work with the Administration to develop and implement bipartisan, market-based solutions that promote competition, transparency, and value to make prescription drugs more affordable for all Americans while at the same time maintaining access to treatments that can improve health outcomes and save lives.

Sincerely,

Lauren Aronson  
Executive Director  
The Campaign for Sustainable Rx Pricing