

ABC and ION join 337 Patient, Provider, and Caregiver Groups Opposing New Part B Demo

On December 10th, AmerisourceBergen and ION Solutions joined 337 other patient, provider, and caregiver organizations on a [letter to Congressional leadership](#) asking them to help stop HHS' recently announced advance notice of the *International Pricing Index Model for Medicare Part B Drugs (IPI)*.

As proposed, the IPI model could be implemented in 2020 and would institute a mandatory demonstration project for 50% of the U.S. that would replace Medicare's existing Part B drug reimbursement mechanism with a new benchmark based on foreign drug prices. It would change provider reimbursement to a flat add-on fee and restructure the current "buy and bill" model so that a new vendor system would be implemented whereby the medicines would be purchased and delivered to the physician by a vendor who would then be reimbursed by Medicare; a revised version of the failed 2006 Competitive Acquisition Program (CAP).

The letter articulates myriad concerns with the proposal, including potential disruptions to beneficiary access to needed medications, provider reimbursement cuts, and dampening medical innovation. ABC will continue to collaborate with aligned stakeholders to ensure these concerns are heard by congressional and administration policymakers heading into 2019.