



## AMCP Publishes Position Statement on Addressing Racial Health Disparities

On July 12, the AMCP Board of Directors approved a new Where We Stand position statement on Addressing Racial Health Disparities during their quarterly meeting. The statement recognizes the United States' deeply rooted health disparities derived from racism and social determinants of health and acknowledges that opportunities exist to improve patient outcomes and ensure accountability for health equity among all Americans. In the statement, AMCP also commits to:

1. Mitigating disparities related to optimal medication use.
2. Advancing conversations around disparities by calling for submissions to the *Journal of Managed Care + Specialty Pharmacy (JMCP)* and conducting partnership forums.
3. Incorporating health equity goals into the organization's strategic plan.
4. Supporting impactful education and policy.

[Read the position statement.](#)



## Eye On Washington

### The Pre-approval Information Exchange Act of 2022 Passes in the House

AMCP CEO Susan Cantrell recently posted a blog highlighting the passage of the Pre-approval Information Exchange (PIE) Act of 2022 in the U.S. House of Representatives. On June 8, the PIE Act, included as section 810 of the Food and Drug Amendments Act of 2022, passed the House by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 392-28. PIE promotes quicker patient access to emerging pharmaceuticals and devices by allowing pharmaceutical manufacturers to share economic and scientific information about medical products with health care payers ahead of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval. "In short, PIE can help speed up patient access to new,

### Advocacy Tip

Stay up-to-date: Read AMCP's [Letters, Statements and Analysis](#) on all legislation and regulation impacting managed care pharmacy.

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potentially lifesaving treatments by reducing the time between FDA approval and the beginning of coverage for that treatment,” Cantrell stated.

[Read the full blog.](#)

### **How the U.S.’s Pending PIE Act Will Improve Patient’s Access to Medication**

AMCP’s Vice President of Policy & Government Relations, Jennifer Mathieu, was asked about the importance of the PIE Act in a June 27 article from the health care publication *pharmaphorum*. In the article, Mathieu discusses the long-awaited goal of PIE Act passage, as well as the bill’s impact on improving patient’s access to medication. While AMCP first introduced the concept of PIE between manufactures and health care payers and plans in 2017, its continued advocacy of pre-approval information exchange helped push the legislation to a resounding passage by the House of Representatives in June. Through the exchange of pharmaceutical product information prior to FDA approval, health care plans and payers can reduce the time spent reviewing coverage and can make new therapies or indications available to patients faster.

[Read the article.](#)

### **FDA Authorizes Pharmacists to Prescribe Paxlovid with Certain Limitations**

On July 6, the FDA revised the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the COVID-19 treatment Paxlovid to allow state-licensed pharmacists to prescribe the treatment. While COVID-19 positive patients are encouraged to bring recent medical records and a history of medications they are taking in order to determine their eligibility to receive Paxlovid, certain limitations apply to pharmacist’s ability to prescribe the drug. Pharmacists are encouraged to refer patients for a clinical evaluation to a provider authorized to prescribe drugs if sufficient information is not available to assess renal and hepatic function or assess for a potential drug interaction. Similarly, pharmacists should refer patients to other providers if modification of other medications is needed due to a potential drug interaction or if Paxlovid is not an appropriate therapeutic option based on the current Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers or potential drug interactions for which recommended monitoring would not be feasible.

[Read the revised EUA.](#)

## **HHS Issues Guidance to Retail Pharmacies Clarifying Their Obligations to Ensure Access to Reproductive Health Care Services**

On July 13, the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) issued guidance to the nation's retail pharmacies reminding them of their obligations under federal civil rights laws to provide access to reproductive healthcare services. The guidance clarifies that pharmacies, as recipients of federal financial assistance, are legally prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, and disability in their programs and activities. These programs and activities include supplying prescribed medication, determining the suitability of a medication, or advising patients on how such medication should be taken. The guidance stands as the Department's latest step in combatting pregnancy discrimination, which includes discrimination based on current pregnancy, past pregnancy, potential or intended pregnancy, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth.

[Read the OCR guidance.](#)

### **AMCP**

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