



## ISSUE BRIEF

# ACCESS TO PRESCRIPTION DIGITAL THERAPEUTICS ACT (S. 1702/ H.R. 3288)

### BACKGROUND

*The Access to Prescription Digital Therapeutics Act* (S. 1702/ H.R. 3288) is an important bipartisan bill that will improve care for millions of Americans by expanding coverage of prescription digital therapeutics (PDTs). A rapidly growing class of treatments, PDTs are software-based therapies that deliver a clinical benefit to patients, either alone or in combination with other treatments. Many PDTs even offer providers the ability to monitor medication adherence and clinical outcomes. However, most PDTs do not currently fit into one of the statutorily defined coverage categories for the Medicare or Medicaid programs. This leaves beneficiaries of those programs, which include some of America's most vulnerable populations, without access to these cost-effective and cutting-edge treatments.

This bill will expand the number of PDTs eligible for coverage under Medicare and Medicaid and direct the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to establish additional payment methodologies and product-specific Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes. Like other prescription therapies, PDTs are tested for safety and efficacy in randomized clinical trials, reviewed and approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and prescribed by a health care provider. PDTs treat a wide variety of diseases and conditions, including mental and behavioral health issues, substance and opioid use disorders, Parkinson's disease, and diabetes. Many can be used on a mobile phone, which helps improve patient outcomes by displaying care reminders and allowing patients to access their therapies in any setting. Although private health payers may elect to cover PDTs, the current landscape is a patchwork of reimbursement strategies and coding practices. This leads to confusion and underutilization.

### AMCP Urges Passage of the *Access to Prescription Digital Therapeutics Act*

AMCP supports the *Access to Prescription Digital Therapeutics Act*. Expanding coverage of PDTs will improve care for millions of American patients and help standardize reimbursement practices and coding of these therapies across both public and private payers. This bill will help ensure that the greatest number of patients possible are receiving innovative, modern care, which is especially vital for closing care gaps caused by specialist shortages or geographic obstacles. As private payers continue to expand coverage, the lack of a comprehensive benefit category creates a disparity of access for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries. AMCP urges Members of Congress to cosponsor and ultimately enact the *Access to Prescription Digital Therapeutics Act* (S. 1702/ H.R.3288) to authorize stable, comprehensive coverage under Medicare and Medicaid, thereby increasing patient access and quality of care.

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