

Ensure Patient Access to Innovative Diagnostic Imaging Drugs

Cosponsor the Facilitating Innovative Nuclear Diagnostics (FIND) Act of 2023 (S. 1544/H.R. 1199)

As conditions such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease, advanced cardiac disease, and cancers of the prostate, breast and brain continue to exact a heavy toll on elderly Americans, **Medicare’s current reimbursement structure limits patient access to innovative imaging tools that improve diagnosis of these deadly diseases.** These images provide previously unavailable information to support changes in patient management which have been demonstrated through literature to lead to more appropriate treatment and reduce the utilization of unnecessary treatments that may be both expensive and debilitating.

Currently, CMS considers diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals as “supplies” through a packaged payment system, which creates a significant barrier to patient access to the newer, more precise generation of diagnostic nuclear imaging drugs. This methodology averages the higher cost of these specialized products with more general and widely-used low-cost radiopharmaceuticals. The result is that CMS policy overpays for the low-cost products and reduces reimbursement for the higher-cost products to such a point where providers simply choose not to provide these services.

As a result, the current policy both fails to control costs and denies Medicare beneficiaries access to the newer, more precise generation of diagnostic imaging agents.

Reimbursing appropriately for newer, more advanced diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals would align with CMS reimbursement policy for many other drugs - including those in the Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) and radiopharmaceuticals in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS). Removing higher-cost radiopharmaceuticals from the packaging system would also correct some of the current overpayment for the high-volume, lower-cost radiopharmaceuticals.

“Expanding access to the most advanced and effective PET radiopharmaceuticals would strengthen America’s healthcare system and enhance our ability to diagnose advanced illnesses earlier and with greater accuracy.”

Dr. Michael Roarke
Chair, Division of Nuclear Medicine for the Mayo Clinic
Arizona Department of Radiology

CONGRESS CAN IMPROVE MEDICARE BENEFICIARY ACCESS TO ADVANCED DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING BY PASSING THE FACILITATING INNOVATIVE NUCLEAR DIAGNOSTICS (FIND) ACT (S. 1544/H.R. 1199)

Directing HHS to pay separately for all diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals with a cost threshold per day of \$500 means providers can better manage costs while also delivering more targeted and cost-efficient care.



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This bill may also:

- Safeguard access to innovations that enhance patient care;
- Improve clinical outcomes;
- Incentivize research, development, and investment;
- Ensure Medicare beneficiaries receive medically necessary studies their physicians prescribe; and
- The proposed payment changes in the bill occur in a budget-neutral manner.

PLEASE CONSIDER CO-SPONSORING THE FACILITATING INNOVATIVE NUCLEAR DIAGNOSTICS (FIND) ACT TO ENSURE PATIENT ACCESS TO INNOVATIVE IMAGING DRUGS. (S. 1544/H.R. 1199)

Supporting organizations:

- AdMeTech Foundation
- Advanced Accelerator Applications/Novartis
- Aimed Alliance
- Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation
- Alliance for Aging Research
- Alliance for Patient Access
- Alpha-1 Foundation
- Alzheimer's Association
- Alzheimer's Los Angeles
- American Behcet's Disease Association
- American Brain Coalition
- American College of Nuclear Medicine
- American College of Radiology
- American Parkinson Disease Association
- American Society of Neuroradiology
- American Society of Radiologic Technologists
- AnCan Foundation
- Arizona Prostate Cancer Coalition, Inc.
- Autoimmune Association
- Avery's Hope
- Best Day Ever Foundation
- Biogen
- Blue Earth Diagnostics
- Blue Hat Bowtie Foundation
- Bracco Diagnostics
- Brian Grant Foundation
- Cancer ABCs
- Carcinoid Cancer Foundation
- Cardinal Health
- Center for Medicine in the Public Interest
- Cervivor
- Clarity Pharmaceuticals
- Colorectal Cancer Alliance
- Council on Radionuclides and Radiopharmaceuticals, Inc. (CORAR)
- Curium
- Dallas Area Parkinson Society
- Davis Phinney Foundation
- Diabetes Leadership Council
- Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition
- Eckert & Ziegler Isotope Products
- Eckert & Ziegler Radiopharma, Inc.
- Eden Radioisotopes, LLC
- Eisai
- Eli Lilly & Co.
- FORCE: Facing Hereditary Cancer Empowered
- Friends of Parkinson's
- GE HealthCare Pharmaceutical Diagnostics
- Global Liver Institute
- GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer
- Hawai'i Parkinson Association
- Healing NET Foundation

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- Houston Area Parkinson Society
- ICAN, International Cancer Advocacy Network
- Infusion Providers Alliance
- International Isotopes, Inc.
- Ionetix
- ITM USA, Inc.
- Jubilant Radiopharma
- Lantheus Holdings, Inc.
- Large Urology Group Practice Association (LUGPA)
- Learn Advocate Connect: A Neuroendocrine Tumor Society
- Lewy Body Dementia Association
- Life Molecular Imaging (Formerly Piramal Imaging)
- Looms for Lupus
- Los Angeles Carcinoid Neuroendocrine Tumor Society
- LUNGeivity
- Mayo Clinic Department of Radiology
- Medical Imaging & Technology Alliance (MITA)
- MedTrace
- METAvivor
- Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
- Michigan Parkinson's Foundation
- National Alliance for Caregiving
- National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions
- National Association of Nuclear Pharmacies
- National Minority Quality Forum
- Navidea Biopharmaceuticals
- Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation
- NorCal CarciNET Community
- North American Neuroendocrine Tumor Society (NANETS)
- Northern California PET
- NorthStar Medical Technologies, LLC
- Northwest Parkinson's Foundation
- One Cancer Place
- Oncidium Foundation
- Optimal Tracers
- Parkinson & Movement Disorder Alliance
- Parkinson Association of Alabama
- Parkinson Association of Central Florida
- Parkinson Association of Northern California
- Parkinson Association of the Carolinas
- Parkinson Association of the Rockies
- Parkinson Voice Project
- Parkinson's Foundation
- Parkinson's Resources of Oregon
- Patient Empowerment Network
- Patients Rising
- PD Avengers
- People with Empathy
- PharmaLogic
- Pheo Para Alliance
- Power for Parkinson's
- Power over Parkinson's
- Practicing Physicians of America
- Prostate Conditions Education Council
- Prostate Health Education Network
- Rare Access Action Project
- RefleXion
- RetireSafe
- Right Scan Right Time
- Say Yes to Hope
- SHINE Medical Technologies
- Siemens Healthineers
- Society of Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging (SNMMI)
- SOFIE
- SSADH Association
- Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc.
- Support for People with Oral Head and Neck Cancer (SPOHNC)
- SYNGAP1 Foundation
- Telix Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- TerraPower Isotopes
- Texas Rare Alliance
- ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc.
- Upequity
- Veterans Prostate Cancer Awareness Inc.
- Voices of Alzheimer's
- Wisconsin Rare Disease Alliance
- Young Survival Coalition
- ZERO Prostate Cancer