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## ADAP Advocacy Association Blasts Trump for Allowing Health Insurers to Potentially Charge More for Prescription Drugs

### *HIV Co-Pay Assistance Programs Potentially At-Risk*

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – The ADAP Advocacy Association today issued a strong rebuke to the Trump Administration’s claim that it is promoting healthcare affordability and improving consumer choice. The [Final Payment Notice for 2021 Coverage Year](#) released earlier this week by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (“CMS”) does the exact opposite by allowing health insurance companies to disallow drug manufacturer co-pay assistance programs towards patient out-of-pocket cost sharing and deductibles.

“The CMS final payment notice clearly puts the interest of the greedy health insurers over patients living chronic health conditions, such as HIV/AIDS,” summarized Brandon M. Macsata, CEO of the ADAP Advocacy Association. “It is unconscionable in the midst of a global pandemic that this Administration would undermine such an important patient cost-savings tool. It is truly a setback.”

Annually, CMS promulgates the Notice for Benefit and Payment Parameters (“NBPP”), which is the operational rule book for the Affordable Care Act. Among other things, it determines what types of plans can be offered, how pricing is determined, when do things need to be approved, and cost-sharing reduction subsidies.

Summarized Guy Anthony, President & Founder of the Black, Gifted & Whole Foundation and ADAP Advocacy Association board member: “As someone living with HIV and bi-polar disorder, I rely heavily on the co-pay assistance program to afford my medications. I’m not rich, and most people living with co-morbidities aren’t either. My grandmother takes close to 10 different medications and this new policy is literally making it hard for to live.”

A copy of the 2020 Final Payment Notice can be downloaded online: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-final-payment-notice-2021-coverage-year>.

To learn more about the ADAP Advocacy Association, AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, or the NBPP, please email [info@adapadvocacy.org](mailto:info@adapadvocacy.org).

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**About the ADAP Advocacy Association:** The ADAP Advocacy Association mission is to promote and enhance the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) and improves access to care for persons living with HIV/AIDS. **aaa+**® works with advocates, community, health care, government, patients, pharmaceutical companies and other stakeholders to raise awareness, offer patient educational programs, and foster greater community collaboration.