

CORD

Irrational Medicine: Limitations on Medicare Drug Coverage for Kidney Patients Costs Taxpayers Millions of Dollars

Item Type	House Minority Staff Report
Download date	2025-04-20 16:57:59
Link to Item	https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14300/911

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3317

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare Program of self-administered drugs that, when used as a replacement for covered drugs, result in overall cost savings to the program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2001

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. FRANK, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Ms. LEE, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Mr. ALLEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare Program of self-administered drugs that, when used as a replacement for covered drugs, result in overall cost savings to the program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Drug Cost
5 Savings Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICARE COVERAGE OF COST SAVING SELF-AD-**
2 **MINISTERED DRUGS USED AS A REPLACE-**
3 **MENT FOR COVERED DRUGS.**

4 (a) COVERAGE.—Section 1861(s)(2) of the Social Se-
5 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)), as amended by sec-
6 tions 102(a) and 105(a) of the Medicare, Medicaid, and
7 SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000
8 (114 Stat. 2763A–468, 471), as enacted into law by sec-
9 tion 1(a)(6) of Public Law 106–554, is amended—

10 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
11 graph (U);

12 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-
13 paragraph (V) and inserting “; and”; and

14 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (V) the fol-
15 lowing new subparagraph:

16 “(W) a self-administered drug (which is ap-
17 proved by the Food and Drug Administration)
18 that—

19 “(i) is a full replacement for a drug or
20 drug therapy which is otherwise covered under
21 this title; and

22 “(ii) as a full replacement for such drug or
23 drug therapy, results in overall cost savings
24 under this title for the treatment of the condi-
25 tion for which such drug or drug therapy is pre-
26 scribed (as determined by the Secretary);”.

1 (b) PROHIBITION ON MANDATED SUBSTITUTION FOR
2 INTRAVENOUS DRUGS.—A carrier (under section 1842 of
3 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395u)), or fiscal inter-
4 mediary (under section 1816 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
5 1395h)), may not require the substitution of a self-admin-
6 istered drug (under section 1861(s)(2)(W) of the Social
7 Security Act, as added by subsection (a)) for an intra-
8 venously-administered drug or drug therapy if, in the
9 judgment of the physician of the individual diagnosed with
10 a condition for which the drug or drug therapy has been
11 prescribed, intravenous-administration of the drug or drug
12 therapy is more appropriate or effective to treat the indi-
13 vidual’s condition.

14 (c) GAO STUDY.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of
16 the United States shall conduct a study on the im-
17 plementation by the Secretary of Health and Human
18 Services of section 1861(s)(2)(W) of the Social Se-
19 curity Act, as added by subsection (a). Such study
20 shall include the identification or evaluation of the
21 following:

22 (A) The self-administered drugs that the
23 Secretary has determined are appropriate for
24 use as replacement drugs under that section.

1 (B) The replacement self-administered
2 drugs for which the Secretary has made pay-
3 ment under the medicare program under title
4 XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
5 1395 et seq.).

6 (C) The amount of savings attributable to
7 the use of such replacement self-administered
8 drugs.

9 (D) Additional self-administered drugs
10 that the Comptroller General determines would
11 be appropriate for use under that section.

12 (E) Any impact on utilization and bene-
13 ficiary access to self-administered drugs under
14 the medicare program.

15 (2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one
16 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
17 Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a re-
18 port on the study conducted under paragraph (1),
19 and may include such recommendations as the
20 Comptroller General determines appropriate.

21 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 subsection (a) apply to drugs furnished on or after the
23 date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of
24 this Act.

○