

## LLS 2015 Federal Legislative Priorities

### Accelerating New Therapies & Cures for Patients

- **FDA & NIH Reform** – This reform initiative will make key improvements that can speed the development of safe and effective treatment options for blood cancer patients. The House draft of this legislative package includes policy proposals developed by LLS, including reforms to promote patient engagement earlier in the drug development process. For more detailed information, LLS has additional materials describing our work and specific requests related to this initiative.
- **Expanded Access Reform** – LLS supports necessary improvements to the FDA’s expanded access program, which is intended to help facilitate patient access to investigational drugs when they have no other treatment options. H.R. 909 authored by Rep. McCaul (R-TX) would increase transparency to help patients and providers navigate this complex program. This bill was also included in the latest draft of the House FDA and NIH reform legislative package.

### Promoting Access to Quality, Affordable Care

- **Out-of-Pocket Rx Costs**
  - Rx “Specialty Tier” Protections – LLS is advocating for legal protections to put reasonable limitations on patient out-of-pocket costs for prescription medications. H.R. 1600 led by Reps. McKinley (R-WV) and Capps (D-CA) would establish this important protection in federally-regulated plans outside of Medicare. LLS expects legislation to be introduced in 2015 to accomplish the same goal in Medicare Part D.
  - Oral Therapy Parity – LLS is pushing for federal legislation that would promote fairness and innovation by preventing insurance plans from requiring patients to pay significantly more out-of-pocket for oral anti-cancer drugs than similar drugs provided through an infusion in the hospital or doctor’s office. LLS expects House and Senate legislation on this issue in 2015.
- **Health Marketplace Oversight**
  - Discrimination – LLS is supporting strong enforcement of rules that prevent health insurers from designing plan coverage in order to deter blood cancer patients from joining their plan.
  - Transparency – LLS is working to provide blood cancer patients with all the information they need to make a decision on which plan is right for them—including which drugs are covered, how much patients have to pay out of pocket for various services, and which providers are participating in the plan.
  - Network Adequacy – LLS is advocating to federal regulators to strengthen the federal standards that determine whether an insurance plan’s number and type of health providers are sufficient to ensure patients have timely access to the care they need.

For more information on these LLS priorities, please contact Brian Connell, Senior Director of Federal Affairs, at [Brian.Connell@lls.org](mailto:Brian.Connell@lls.org).