### **NABIP-SOTX**

**NEWS** 

National Association of Business and Insurance Professional - South Texas



## How Big Pharma is fighting Biden's program to lower seniors' drug costs

Pharmaceutical giants are mounting a vigorous legal battle against President Biden's plan to lower seniors' prescription drug costs, urging federal judges here and around the country to invalidate a new program that aims to reduce the price of medications for high blood pressure, heart disease, cancer and diabetes.

In a flurry of lawsuits, these drugmakers have blasted the government initiative as unconstitutional, defended their pricing practices and warned that regulation could undermine future cures — even as millions of older Americans say they are struggling to afford essential treatments. Read More Here...

### Letter to Health Care Leaders on Cyberattack on Change Healthcare

As you know, last month Change Healthcare was the target of a cyberattack that has had significant impacts on much of the nation's health care system. The effects of this attack are far-reaching; Change Healthcare, owned by UnitedHealth Group (UHG), processes 15 billion health care transactions annually and is involved in one in every three patient records. The attack has impacted payments to hospitals, physicians, pharmacists, and other health care providers across the country. Many of these providers are concerned about their ability to offer care in the absence of timely payments, but providers persist despite the need for numerous onerous workarounds and cash flow uncertainty.

In a situation such as this, the government and private sector must work together to help providers make payroll and deliver timely care to the American people. Read More Here...

# Day of Education 5-Hours CE Credit May 2, 2024-McAllen www.nabipsotx.org





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### AstraZeneca Loses Lawsuit Challenging Drug Price Negotiation by Medicare

AstraZeneca has lost its lawsuit challenging Medicare's drug price negotiation program after a federal judge concluded the pharmaceutical giant has no standing to contest the law that created it, nor does the company have a constitutionally protected property interest in the matter.



The decision Friday is the first issued for several lawsuits filed by pharmaceutical companies in opposition to certain provisions of the law, the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Many of them make constitutional claims similar to those argued by AstraZeneca.

Farxiga, a blockbuster AstraZeneca medicine with approvals in type 2 diabetes, heart failure, and chronic kidney disease, is one of the first 10 drugs selected by CMS for negotiation. These drugs, which have no generic competition, represented more than \$50 billion in Medicare Part D costs between June 1, 2022, and May 31, 2023.

AstraZeneca claimed that CMS's guidance placing Farxiga on the list of drugs is a violation of the federal Administrative Procedure Act. The company argued that this placement causes it harm by eliminating incentives for developing innovative new uses for the drug, which in turn will narrow patient access to new treatments. AstraZeneca also claimed the IRA is unconstitutional.

Read More Here...

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### Momentum Behind Hospital-At-Home Continues To Grow, But Proponents Say Congress Needs To Act To Fuel More Investment

Francisco Dizon, 77 years old, sat comfortably in his living room as a team of clinicians took his vital signs and administered IV medications to treat his urinary tract infection. While he received medical treatment, his wife, Esperanza, stood close by, speaking with the medical team and graciously offering them something to eat.

The couple, who were college sweethearts and have been married 56 years, are now familiar with the realities of managing serious health challenges as Francisco, who has diabetes, makes frequent trips to the hospital.

Instead of another hospital stay, they opted for DispatchHealth's hospital alternative care-at-home program, called advanced care, to address Francisco's UTI. Opting for hospital-level services in their home meant Esperanza could stay by Francisco's side in a place that's familiar and where they can continue their daily routines. It eliminates the stress of driving back and forth from the hospital and fears that her husband will get a hospital-acquired infection.

"It's more comfortable here [at home]," Esperanza said, and then she added with a laugh, "I can cook for him." She says her husband sleeps better at home and enjoys her homecooked meals. As a caregiver, seeing Francsico resting comfortably at home also gives her peace of mind.

Read More Here...

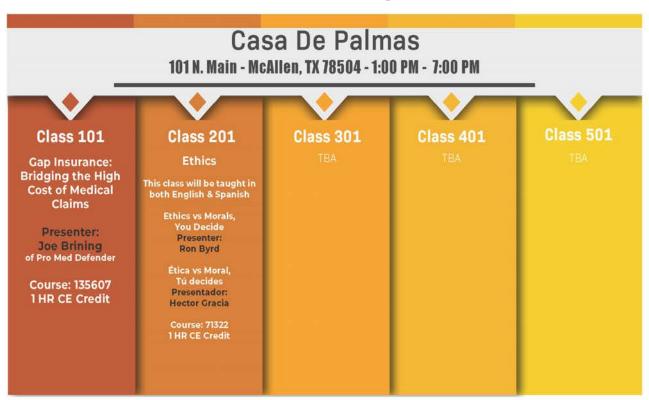


## NABIP-SOTX Day of Education

5-HR CE Credit

### AGENDA

May 2, 2024



### Where To Stay and Eat

We have a room block at **Casa De Palmas** (Collection by Wyndham) of \$99 per night. This is a historic hotel in the RGV.

There are great restaurants near by for those spending the night.

We suggest for fine dining, The Salt 210 N. Main - McAllen

For Casual dining, try Roosevelt's at 7, 821 N. Main - McAllen

Food Truck dining is also near by.

Hotel RSVP can be made at: 956-928-1994 Use code: SOTX

### **Our Shcedule**

- 1:00 Registration Opens
- 1:20 Welcome from President Iris Castillo
- ◆ 1:30 Class 101 Bridging the High Cost of Medical Claims
  - 2:30 Class 201 Ethics in both English and Spanish
    - (The English class will be in a breakout room)
- ◆ 3:20 Break Time With Exhibitors
  - 4:00 Class 301
- ▲ 5:00 Class 401
- 5:50 Heavy Hors D' Oeuvres Arrive
  - 6:10 Class 501
- 7:00 Class Dismissed and Happy Hour Begins









### NABIP-SOTX NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS & INSURANCE PROVESSIONALS - SOUTH TEXAS



9/5/2024

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POST SUMMIT HAPPY HOUR 9/6/2024- 5:00 PM SPI Fireworks - 9:15 PM