



Testimony in Support of Coverage for Medication Synchronization in HB116
Ohio Senate Medicaid Committee
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American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
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Good afternoon Chairman Burke, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Minority Member Cafaro, and members of the Committee. On behalf of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 116.

By providing a way for patients to synchronize their prescriptions, HB 116 gives patients more control and provides a strategy for potentially coordinating and improving access to care.

ACS CAN is working to ensure that cancer patients have access to all medically necessary and appropriate drugs at affordable prices. Also important is protecting patients from delays and administrative barriers that undermine access to timely treatment.

Medication synchronization could be a critical tool in improving the quality of life for cancer patients by streamlining this process into one monthly pharmacy visit and increasing medication adherence. Cancer is often a very expensive and complicated condition to treat, requiring a team of medical professionals working together to help a patient.

Many times a combination of drug therapies are needed to treat the cancer and relieve symptoms from the disease, as well as side-effects from treatment. For cancer patients, multiple trips to the pharmacy and multiple drug copays can be a significant barrier to care. For this reason, we support prorated copayments in instances where partial refills of less than a 30-day supply are provided in order to synchronize prescriptions.

Finding new ways to manage and treat illness, particularly for patients with chronic conditions such as cancer, is necessary to improve the quality of cancer care. Synchronizing prescriptions makes management of multiple medications easier for the patient and could lead to better coordination of care and improved quality of life for patients and their families.

ACS CAN urges you to support HB 116 as we believe it's a positive step towards patient-centered coordinated care.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about this testimony. Thank you.