



September 5, 2018

**Re: Please Sign On to Bipartisan House Letter to CMS Administrator Seema Verma Regarding Use of Prior Authorization in Medicare Advantage Plans**

Dear Representative:

The undersigned members of the Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation (CPR) write to express our strong support for a bipartisan Congressional sign-on letter from Representatives Phil Roe (R-TN-1) and Ami Bera (D-CA-7) to CMS Administrator Seema Verma regarding the use of prior authorization in Medicare Advantage (MA) plans.

Representatives Roe and Bera's letter (attached, and available [here](#)) calls for CMS to work to reduce barriers to patient care by improving how prior authorization works under Medicare Advantage. The letter expresses concerns that CPR members share. In April 2018, CPR sent a letter (attached) to Administrator Verma expressing concerns that prior authorization and other similar practices used by MA plans may be sources of increasing barriers to accessing needed care, particularly inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services and devices, for beneficiaries nationwide.

CPR is a coalition of national consumer, clinician, and membership organizations that advocate for policies to ensure access to rehabilitative care so that individuals with injuries, illnesses, disabilities and chronic conditions may regain and/or maintain their maximum level of health and independent function. CPR is comprised of organizations that represent beneficiaries who are frequently inappropriately denied access to rehabilitative care in a variety of settings, as well as the providers who serve them.

We encourage you to join Reps. Roe and Bera in their letter to Administrator Verma. To sign on to the letter, please contact Aaron Bill in Rep. Roe's office ([aaron.bill@mail.house.gov](mailto:aaron.bill@mail.house.gov)) or Erin O'Quinn in Rep. Bera's office ([erin.oquinn@mail.house.gov](mailto:erin.oquinn@mail.house.gov)) by September 7, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact the CPR coordinators, Peter Thomas, at [Peter.Thomas@powerslaw.com](mailto:Peter.Thomas@powerslaw.com) or Leif Brierley, at [Leif.Brierley@powerslaw.com](mailto:Leif.Brierley@powerslaw.com), or call 202-466-6550.

Sincerely,

**The Undersigned Members of the Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation**

Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals

ACCSES

American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

American Association of People with Disabilities  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine  
American Dance Therapy Association  
American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association  
American Music Therapy Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Spinal Injury Association  
American Therapeutic Recreation Association  
Association of Academic Physiatrists  
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
Brain Injury Association of America  
Center for Medicare Advocacy  
Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation  
Clinician Task Force  
Falling Forward Foundation  
Lakeshore Foundation  
National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics  
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Rehabilitation Association  
Paralyzed Veterans of America  
Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America  
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research  
Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation  
United Spinal Association