

## **2020 Lupus Advocacy Day - Talking Points**

### **Surprise Medical Billing - Balanced Billing Act Support Senate Bill 293 and House Bill 888**

As a medical consumer, I would like to know ahead of time if I am being treated by a healthcare provider who is not covered in network by my health insurance plan before I receive treatment.

As a medical consumer, I would like my healthcare provider and insurance company to work out the cost if I am treated by a healthcare provider who is not covered in network by my health insurance plan.

As a medical consumer, I would like my healthcare providers to disclose cost estimates prior to an examination.

### **Full Medicaid Expansion**

We need full Medicaid expansion because it would provide health insurance to thousands of Georgians living with debilitating chronic illnesses.

Full Medicaid expansion would insure half a million of uninsured or underinsured Georgians who use emergency rooms and urgent care systems to treat chronic illnesses. Hospitals care for these patients and transfer that cost on consumers.

Full Medicaid expansion would insure the 60% of lupus patients who have completely lost income because they are unable to work and have not been approved for disability.

### **Pharmacy Benefit Managers Role Drugs – Support a more comprehensive version of Senate Bill 313**

Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) negotiate costs, discounts and rebates with pharmaceutical companies in exchange for preferred placement of drugs on the insurer's drug list or formulary.

We want know how much money is divided between the pharmacy, the PBM, insurance company, and pharmaceutical company every time we fill a prescription.

We want lower drug costs. We want to know if a corporation is receiving a discount or rebate that is intended for the patient.

We want the option to use local pharmacies over mail order without penalty. We want the price we pay at a local pharmacy to equal the cost for mail order prescription drugs.

We want more transparency when filling prescriptions for specialty tier drugs. We want to know why a drug is designated specialty. We want to know why patients are forced to obtain specialty tier drugs from a mail order pharmacist.

Reach.org is seeking stories from patients who need access to specialty drugs or are forced to use a mail-order pharmacy. Email [dlg@arxc.org](mailto:dlg@arxc.org) if you have a story related to your ability to access specialty tier drugs.