



For Immediate Release

July 21, 2020

Survey of U.K. Physicians Reveals Concerns with Government Interference in Health Care

Washington, DC (July 21, 2020) – Today, the Part B Access for Seniors and Physicians (ASP) Coalition released a new survey of U.K. physicians highlighting the impact government interference can have on access and a physician’s ability to properly treat patients. This important information should be considered before moving forward with any proposals that would allow for foreign reference pricing – as the impact could be catastrophic.

Importing foreign health care policies has been a goal of some policymakers in recent years, pointing to other developed nations such as the United Kingdom as evidence of success. However, this new survey indicates single-payer health care systems often prioritize cutting costs over ensuring patients have access to the best possible health care.

The survey highlights that many patients in the U.K. are often left with few treatment options leading to worsened health outcomes, for example, between 2010 and 2014, a U.K. patient with brain cancer was nearly 40% less likely to survive five years after diagnosis than a patient in the United States.

In addition, the survey indicates that patients consistently flee the U.K. in search of higher quality treatment. 51% of U.K. physicians have had multiple patients travel abroad to gain access to a treatment. Additionally, 82% of U.K. physicians agree their patients would benefit from access to more innovative medicines, and finally, 75% of U.K. physicians say their government rations health care to control spending.

These findings demonstrate the impact these foreign policies could have on access and innovation in the U.S. and shine light on why the U.S. government should not import other countries’ health care policies. For additional information, you can access our one-pager [here](#).

As we continue to address impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, we urge policymakers to work on solutions that increase access and flexibility for patients rather than restricting it. Restrictions to access will only lead to reduced medication adherence, deteriorating health, and increased health care spending long term. Foreign reference pricing proposals could result in significant issues for U.S. patients, which is concerning, especially in light of the pandemic. Congress and the administration should carefully consider that impact before making any changes to the Part B program.

For more information, please visit www.PartBAccess.org