

# 340B: A Critical Safety Net to Help Patients Access Their Medications

Legislators Must Prioritize Patients to Sustain the 340B Drug Pricing Program



## A Safety Net To Help The Most Vulnerable Among Us

The 340B Drug Pricing Program serves to improve drug accessibility and affordability for underserved patient populations, enabling them to better manage their health conditions.



Low-Income Individuals



Under-Insured Patients



Uninsured Patients

## Washington & States Put a Microscope on 340B

Mounting evidence suggests that 340B has deviated from its intended purpose of supporting patients, prompting federal and state lawmakers to propose reforms to overhaul the program.

0%

**Most patients received 0% discounts on their medications** even though the medication was purchased at a 340B discount.<sup>1</sup>



**Numerous states are pursuing narrow reforms of 340B** that fail to address patient needs and will actually harm underserved populations.



**To truly benefit the patient populations it was designed for**, comprehensive reform of the 340B program must occur at the federal level.

## Patient-Centered Principles to Ensure the Sustainability of 340B



**Ensure 340B Benefits Vulnerable Patients.** Require covered entities in North Carolina to use 340B profits to directly benefit patients while placing limitations on profits that are totally unrelated to the 340B program's intent of supporting uninsured and other vulnerable populations in affording outpatient drugs.



**Ensure Transparency of 340B Activities.** Require 340B covered entities in North Carolina to report and certify annually on the use of 340B profits to lower out-of-pocket costs for vulnerable patients.

## NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATORS: PROTECT VULNERABLE PATIENTS WHO RELY ON 340B

Policymakers must take a patient-centered approach that will empower low-income, under-insured, and uninsured individuals in North Carolina to access their essential prescription medications at the pharmacy counter. North Carolina legislators must make certain patients benefit from 340B drug discounts.

<sup>1</sup> James C. Robinson, Ph.D., Christopher Whaley, Ph.D., and Sanket S. Dhruva, M.D. "Hospital Prices for Physician-Administered Drugs for Patients with Private Insurance." January 25, 2024.