



Supporting the Seniors' Access to Critical Medications Act of 2023 - H.R. 5526 and S. 3458

On January 18 HOA team members, Molly Ganley, NP, Denise Lougee, NP and Jonas Congelli, RPh were on Capitol Hill advocating for our patients and their right to receive their oral cancer medications from HOA.

Currently, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) consider it a violation of Stark Law if anyone but the patient picks up their medication in person. That means a family member or caregiver cannot pick it up on the patient's behalf, and that HOA cannot even deliver the medication to the patient's home.



I to r: Denise Lougee, NP, Jonas Congelli, RPh, Matthew Fuentes from Sen. Schumer's office and Molly Ganley, NP

CMS is clearly misinterpreting the Stark Law, however they are not willing to change their position. As a result, our only solution is to support legislation to overturn this.

The HOA team met with the following Senators and Representatives and their staff members:

- Senator Thom Tillis (NC) and his staff member Garrett Daniel
- Senator Maria Cantwell (WA)
- Representative Claudia Tenney (NY) and her staff member George Iverson
- Matthew Fuentes, from Sen Chuck Schumer's office (NY)
- Sean McCabe from Representative Anthony D'Esposito's office (NY-04)
- Alexander Ury from Representative Hakeem Jeffries' office (NY-08)
- Michael Inguanta from Representative Brandon Williams' office (NY-22)

The response was positive and every member of congress or their staff was supportive of our message and the proposed legislation. HOA will continue to follow the outcome of this legislation and our hope is that we have some positive news on this issue soon! Please [click here](#) to read more about this important issue and how it may affect you.

Non-Oncology Infusion Services from Our Expert Team

Benlysta	Ocrevus
Boniva	Onpatro
Cidofovir	Prolactin
Colony Stimulating Factors	Remicade
Crys vita	Rituxan
Cytosan	Skyrizi
Desmopressin	Soliris
Entyvio	Stelara
Evenity	Tepezza
Evusheld	Tezspire
IV Iron	Tysabri
IV Magnesium	Ultomiris
IV Solumedrol	Vyepti
IVIG	Vyygart
Krystexxa	Xgeva
Lanreotide	Xolair
Legvio	Zinplava
Nucala	Zoledronic Acid
Nuloxi	

Just ask your physician for a referral to HOA!

If you or a loved one receives infusions of any of the medications listed in the graphic to the left, you can ask to have your infusions at HOA!

Our Infusion Services program combines our decades of expertise and nationally accredited safety standards to offer all infusion-therapy patients comfortable, compassionate and convenient care. With physician champions Santosh Kumar, M.D., Steven Duffy, M.D. and Tarek J. Sousou, M.D., HOA is the only Infusion-Services provider in Central New York that requires nurses to receive and maintain national certification in Chemotherapy/Immunotherapy (infusion). This specialized

training reinforces the importance of safe administration of high-risk medications [Learn more here](#).

Financial Support for Patients

We understand that the cost of cancer and blood disorders treatment can add stress to an already difficult time. In an effort to help alleviate some of this worry and allow you to focus on your health and treatment, we have financial counseling available with our patient advocates.

Our patient advocates are knowledgeable in insurance-related issues and financial assistance programs and available to help you. They will help answer any questions regarding insurance coverage, benefits verification, billing questions, and/or other financial concerns.

Please feel free to contact us at 315.472.7504. Ask for Amy at extension 1076 or Paulette at extension 1077. You can also reach Jennifer, Patient Financial Services Manager at extension 1079.

Options that may be available include:

- Looking for other insurance options (specifically for you)
- Grant/foundation assistance
- Monthly payment budgets/auto budgets
- Assistance with paying for medications

Thank
You!

for your patience as
we scan insurance
cards at each
person's first visit of
2024



with Molly Ganley, FNP-C

[Click here](#) to watch Director of Nursing, Molly Ganley on WSYR-TV 9's *Bridge Street* discuss cancer prevention.

Community Oncology Alliance Advocacy Chats

Each month, a special guest joins Community Oncology Alliance's (COA) Director of Patient Advocacy & Education, Rose Gerber for a conversation on oncology and advocacy-related topics.

The next chat topic is Cancer Wellness - A Focus on the Importance of Supportive Care, and is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14 at noon. You can [register here](#)! You also can view all past chats with full video playback, notes, and session slides [here](#).



This month's buzzword is **Carcinoma in situ** which is cancer that only involves the cells in which it began and does not spread to other areas, tissues, or body parts.

If ever there is a term your care team uses that you don't understand, please ask for clarification. Also, a resource you may find helpful is the [NCI Dictionary of Cancer Terms](#).