Welcome to the RWMPMC Membership Update

October 4, 2018
IDWeek
San Francisco, CA
Thank You!

For providing dedicated staffing for RWMPG, including federal advocacy training and support, since 2008
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Jenny Collier, JD
Coalition Convener
RW Medical Providers Coalition

RW Medical Providers Coalition (RWMPC) Advocacy
Amplifies RW Medical Provider Voices

Michelle Ogle, MD
Former RWMPC Co-Chair
&
Kate McManus, MD, MSCR
RWMPC Steering Committee Member
RWMPC Advocates in Action!
RWMPC Advocates in Action!
RWMPC Advocacy: Voicing RW Medical Provider Priorities

RWMPC builds relationships with policy makers so that Ryan White medical providers can voice their priorities by:

• Meeting with Congressional & Administration officials
• Submitting Congressional testimony
• Participating in Congressional briefings
• Hosting clinic visits for Congress and Administration
• Providing input on HIV & related issues to policy makers
HIV Medical Providers Are Effective Advocates

• Viewed as responsible

• Knowledgeable and expert

• Affiliated with important community institutions – universities, health ctrs

• Simplify complex issues – akin to patient education

• Know a lot of people, so are influential

• Advocacy Success: RWMPCH members and staff successfully campaigned for federal funding for syringe services programs by:
  • Visiting with Congressional offices
  • Participating as experts at Hill briefings
  • Testifying before Congressional committees
2017-2018 RWMPC Advocacy Achievements

- 2018 RWMPC DC Advocacy Meeting was the largest ever - conducted 70+ meetings

- RWMPC/HIVMA member testified before Congress, advocating for more RWP & opioid response funding

- More RWMPC members hosted clinic visits

- This advocacy helped to protect & maintain RWP funding!
• **Request support from RWMPC** – RWMPC wants to *amplify your medical provider voice* through training, advice, and staff support

• **Respond to action alerts** to *call, email, or contact on social media* your members of Congress

• **Invite members of Congress and staff** to *visit your clinic*
The Power of Clinic Visits: Where Local Meets Federal Advocacy

- Clinic visits are an effective advocacy tool because they provide that opportunity for *show and tell*
- Clinic visits are a great way to engage in advocacy - you are showcasing *success stories and local needs*
- RWMPc can help you plan an effective clinic visit – *contact the RWMPc Convener for assistance!*
Additional RWMPC & HIVMA Advocacy Resources

- **RWMPC & HIVMA clinic visit check list, & HIVMA advocacy and media tips & webinars:** [https://www.hivma.org/policy--advocacy/ryan-white-medical-providers-coalition/ryan-white-medical-providers-coalition2/](https://www.hivma.org/policy--advocacy/ryan-white-medical-providers-coalition/ryan-white-medical-providers-coalition2/)

- **HIVMA/IDSA Advocacy Guide:** [https://goo.gl/4oth6S](https://goo.gl/4oth6S)

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**Advocacy Resources**

**GENERAL**

- IDSA and HIVMA Members Speak: Why Advocacy Matters
- Tips on Lobbying and Working with Legislators and their Staff
- How to Become an Advocate for HIV and ID: IDSA/HIVMA Advocacy 101 Webinar
- Social Media as a Policy Education and Communications Tool: A Primer for HIV/ID Providers Webinar
- Tips for Aspiring Op-Ed Writers (NYT)
- RWMPC Site Visit Checklist
Federal Policy Update

Jenny Collier, JD
RWMPFC Convener

&

Andrea Weddle, MSW
HIVMA Executive Director
2017-2018 RWMPC Policy Priorities

• Ensure Ryan White Program support & continuation by protecting Ryan White Program (RWP) funds, improving RWP administration, and preparing for future RWP reauthorization

• Educate Congress about the key role the 340B Program plays at some RWP clinics supporting access to care

• Advocate for improved opioid epidemic responses, including:
  – Increased funding for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment
  – SUD workforce loan forgiveness covering a range of medical providers
  – non-RWP funding for the prevention and treatment of SUD-related infections (HIV, HCV, etc.)
2017-2018 RWMPC Policy Achievements

• **Protected & maintained** FY18 and FY19 RWP funding

• **Achieved opioid response** funding increases & policy improvements

• **Provided feedback on** RWP administration, including:
  – RWP recertification
  – Proposed RWP data collection
  – HAB & project officer communication of policy & funding issues
Congress has determined FY19 funding for the RWP, and all parts of the RWP received level funding!

Opioid epidemic responses and NIH research are some of the few health programs to receive FY19 funding increases

Midterm election results should provide guidance on how funding issues could change next Congress
Trump Administration position on RWP reauthorization is unclear

HIV advocates have included suggested RWP changes in the Act Now End AIDS (ANEKA) draft strategy scheduled for release on World AIDS Day (Dec 1st)

Most HIV advocates and key Congressional leaders agree that given the uncertainty of the environment, it is NOT YET time to reauthorize – will reassess in new Congress
The Opioid Epidemic: Improving the Federal Response

• Congress passed an opioid bill that would **authorize**:  
  – *Loan forgiveness for medical providers* who provide SUD treatment
  
  – *A new CDC infectious diseases initiative* to work with states to improve education, surveillance, and treatment of IDU infections

• Congress **appropriated** FY19 funding for opioid response:  
  – **$1.5 billion** for state opioid response grants through SAMHSA
  
  – **$120 million** for HRSA’s Rural Communities Opioid Response Program
  
  – **$5 million in new funding** for CDC to improve surveillance, treatment & education efforts for opioid-related infections (HBV, HCV, HIV) prioritizing areas most at risk for HIV & hepatitis outbreaks due to injection drug use
• Offers certain federal grantees and hospitals discounted prices for drugs and allows savings to be used to “stretch scarce federal resources.”

• In 2015 - 340B drugs only accounted for 4.2% of undiscounted drug sales & reduced drug sales by an estimated 1.4%.

• Congressional bills introduced mainly target hospitals.

• Administration cut 340B payments for Medicare Part B drugs for certain hospitals.

• No Congressional action...YET

How are 340B savings used for HIV services by your clinic or hospital? Email: aweddle@hivma.org
Proposed Changes to “Public Charge” Definition

• “Public Charge” is used to determine eligibility for a green card
• Expands definition for what constitutes a “public charge”
• Proposed rule DOES NOT include the RWP in definition
• Does include non-emergency Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, Medicare Part D Low-income Subsidy
• Rule not in place yet; will not be retroactive

Learn More: www.ProtectingImmigrantFamilies.org
Discussion Forum: RWMPC Needs Your Feedback!

*Moderated by:*

Barb Gripshover, MD
Former RWMPC Co-Chair

&

Chris Bositis, MD
RWMPC Steering Committee Member
Discussion Forum

• Have you recently experienced hurdles related to Ryan White Program administration or policy?

• Does your Ryan White Program have a 340B program? If yes, what does this program income fund at your clinic?

• Are there opioid epidemic challenges, including workforce or funding challenges, you are experiencing? What is needed to better address SUD and related infectious diseases?
Thank You & Please Keep In Touch!

• Thank you for your valuable feedback and the discussion!

• Join RWMPC:
  – Sign up today at your table
  – Email info@hivma.org

• Contact RWMPC:
  – info@hivma.org
  – (703) 299-1215
  – www.hivma.org