

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIR340B Coalition Reacts to Administration's Announcement of Final Rule on Hospital Transparency Requirements

WASHINGTON – The Alliance for Integrity and Reform of 340B (AIR340B) issued the following statement regarding the 2020 Outpatient Prospective Payment System & Ambulatory Surgical Center Price Transparency Requirements for Hospitals to Make Standard Charges Public final rule:

"The AIR340B Coalition welcomes today's finalization of the new hospital price transparency rule. Requiring hospitals to disclose standard pricing for health care services will ultimately provide Americans with a more complete picture of their health care costs, allowing patients and consumers to make informed health care choices for themselves and their families. While these efforts represent a positive step forward, further transparency measures are needed for those hospitals participating in the 340B program, such as the basis for hospital 340B eligibility, how the discounts are reinvested, and who is truly benefiting from 340B discounts.

"Today, there is no requirement that 340B hospitals report how they are using savings from the program, leaving no way of knowing whether the money is being reinvested into increased care for uninsured or vulnerable patients, as intended by the program. In fact, a report released just this week found nearly two out of three 340B hospitals are consistently providing below average rates of charity care, despite significant growth in the program.

"The AIR340B Coalition urges the administration to pursue additional transparency measures that will create accountability in the 340B program for hospitals, restore a critical safety-net, and improve health outcomes for America's patients."

The report released earlier this week, *Left Behind: An Analysis of Charity Care Provided by Hospitals Enrolled in the 340B Discount Program*, can be found here.

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The Alliance for Integrity and Reform of 340B (AIR340B) is a coalition of patient advocacy groups, clinical care providers, and biopharmaceutical innovators dedicated to

reforming and strengthening the 340B program to ensure it directly supports access to outpatient prescription medicines for uninsured indigent patients. www.340Breform.org