
Arthritis Foundation Statement on Administration's Freeze of Risk Adjustment Payments and Reduced Funding for Navigators

July 11, 2018

ATLANTA, Ga. – On July 11, the Arthritis Foundation released the following statement on the administration's latest actions affecting the individual health insurance market:

"For the last year, the Arthritis Foundation has advocated for swift bipartisan action to stabilize the marketplace. As a result, we are deeply concerned the administration has decided to withhold risk adjustment payments from insurers and the impact this will have on people with arthritis who need access to affordable and comprehensive health care. These payments ensure a balanced risk pool.

"The Arthritis Foundation is also disappointed with the administration's decision to further cut navigator funding. Arthritis is the leading cause of disability in the United States; it presents a unique set of access challenges for many people who suffer from the disease. The combination of reduced funding and weakened physical presence requirements for navigators will make it even more challenging to reach patients with arthritis and other chronic diseases.

"We strongly encourage the administration to renew discussions with Congress on bipartisan solutions to stabilize the health insurance marketplace and avoid policies that exacerbate an increasingly fragile individual health insurance marketplace."

