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A <u>New York Times</u> investigation exposed how hospitals are exploiting 340B to charge patients exorbitant prices for discounted drugs, pocketing the difference instead of reinvesting in charity care. In one case, a cancer patient was charged \$22,700 for a drug that cost the hospital just \$2,700—and was then sent to collections for an additional \$2,500. This is not an isolated incident; it is part of a broader pattern of abuse that has driven up costs for patients, employers, and taxpayers while leaving many of the most vulnerable behind.

Despite hospitals' claims that 340B helps underserved communities, the reality in New York tells a different story:

- 86% of New York's 340B hospitals provide charity care at levels below the national average.
- New York's 340B hospitals generate 2.8 times more revenue from the program than they spend on charity care.
- Only 24% of 340B contract pharmacies in New York are located in medically underserved areas—meaning most of the benefits go to wealthier neighborhoods.

As <u>The New York Times</u> reported, New York's Medicaid system was forced to change how it administers drug benefits because the cost of 340B ballooned by more than 200% in just three years. State Medicaid Director Amir Bassiri called the growth "staggering" and made clear that everyone is paying the price for a program that lacks transparency and oversight. Expanding 340B without first addressing these systemic failures will only deepen inequities, further drive up costs, and divert critical healthcare dollars away from the communities that need them most.

Rather than expanding a broken system, New York legislators should demand transparency, accountability, and real benefits for low-income patients. Policymakers must ensure that hospitals disclose how they reinvest 340B savings, that program discounts directly lower costs for uninsured patients, and that expansion is focused on truly underserved areas. Without these reforms, 340B will continue to enrich large hospital systems at the expense of vulnerable New Yorkers.

We urge you to oppose 340B expansion until real reforms are in place to ensure the program truly serves the patients it was created to help. Sincerely,

AiArthritis

American Association of Clinical Urologists, Inc.

**Biomarker Collaborative** 

BlackDoctor.org

**Cancer Care** 

Coalition of Hematology & Oncology Practices

Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations

**Community Liver Alliance** 

Exon20 Group

Fibromyalgia Task Force of New York State

Global Healthy Living Foundation

H.E.A.L.S. of the South

Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY

Hispanic Business Alliance Hispanic Health Network Hispanic/LatinX Leadership Network

International Cancer Advocacy Network (ICAN)

Latino Commission on AIDS

LifeSciencesNY

Living Hope for Mental Health

LUGPA (Large Urology Group Practice Association)

Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.

MANA, A National Latina Organization

**MET Crusaders** 

Multiple Sclerosis Resources of Central New York, Inc.

National Consumers League

NY Statewide Peer Network

PDL1 Amplifieds

**Tigerlily Foundation**