

April 13th, 2026

Dear Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Board's affordability review process. The Arthritis Foundation supports efforts to improve prescription drug affordability for patients. As this work continues, we encourage the Board to adopt a clear, patient-centered definition of affordability, one that reflects whether individuals can consistently access and maintain treatment within their overall financial circumstances. Measures such as list price or system-wide spending alone may not fully capture what patients actually experience.

We appreciate the Board's efforts to incorporate patient feedback and stakeholder input. Continued prioritization of patient experience and real-world affordability will be critical moving forward. Centering patients in the review process should remain a core priority. Affordability determinations should prioritize real-world patient costs and be supported by patient-reported data or direct evidence of impact. Patient-centered measures, rather than system-level savings, should serve as a primary indicator of success.

Finally, we encourage the Board to prioritize solutions that address the underlying drivers of affordability challenges for patients. When policies focus primarily on system-level savings, patients may be left behind and face the consequences.

Thank you for your consideration. The Arthritis Foundation looks forward to continued engagement with the Board.

Sincerely,



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