



July 14, 2026

Ms. Shelley Bailey, MBA
Chair, Oregon Prescription Drug Affordability Board
350 Winter Street NE
Salem, OR 97309

RE: OR Prescription Drug Affordability Board Review Process

Members of the Oregon Prescription Drug Affordability Board:

Susan G. Komen (Komen) appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the Oregon Prescription Drug Affordability Board's (Board) list of drugs selected for an affordability review.

Komen is the world's leading nonprofit breast cancer organization representing the millions of people who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Komen has an unmatched, comprehensive 360-degree approach to fighting this disease across all fronts – we advocate for patients, drive research breakthroughs, improve access to high-quality care, offer direct patient support, and empower people with trustworthy information. Komen is committed to supporting those affected by breast cancer today, while tirelessly searching for tomorrow's cures. We advocate on behalf of the estimated 4,300 people in Oregon who will be diagnosed with breast cancer and the more than 580 who will die from the disease in 2026 alone.

Komen advocates for robust policies that recognize both the financial toxicity of treating breast cancer and the systemic hurdles patients must pass through to access their care. We are committed to supporting policies that lower the patient's out-of-pocket costs, protect them from financial ruin and reduce the red tape around vital aspects of care.

Modern treatments continue to improve survival for people with breast cancer, including those diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer (MBC). Most breast cancer treatment plans are guided by many factors, including tumor biology, sites of metastasis, symptoms, past breast cancer treatment, and personal goals and preferences. Given the unique nature of the individual's disease, it is imperative that patients and providers have unimpeded access to the full spectrum of drug therapies. Keytruda and Verzenio are essential therapies that play a significant role in treating and managing breast cancer.

While Komen supports the goal of reducing health care costs and improving transparency for drug pricing, we strongly encourage the Board to carefully consider all the interconnected factors within the health care system when exploring potential solutions. Komen believes that limiting access, in any way, to these critical treatments, especially for those living with MBC, will put lives at risk and ultimately result in increased healthcare costs.

When determining the affordability of Keytruda and Verzenio, we encourage the Board to consider the unique needs of each patient, as well as the broader health and economic impacts, which should account for all costs associated with a patient's treatment, not just the cost of the prescription itself.

Additionally, we believe the patient voice throughout the Board's decision process is critical. Unfortunately, patients currently lack adequate representation in the decision-making processes and have no official representation on the Board. Making sure the patient's perspective is included will be crucial to ensure that affordability assessments accurately reflect the experiences and needs of those directly affected. We urge this Board to not only encourage

patient feedback, but also to intentionally create meaningful and accessible opportunities for patients to share their experiences with any therapies being considered and the impact they have on their quality of life and overall treatment options.

Komen remains committed to making sure patients receive the right care at the right time so that everyone can survive and thrive after breast cancer. We respectfully urge the Board to consider the needs and desires of the patient and to preserve, without impediment, access to these -life-altering treatments when determining affordability. Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to share feedback.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Elena Teare, State Policy & Advocacy Manager, at eteare@komen.org.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Birch", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rebecca Birch
Sr. Director, State Policy & Advocacy
Susan G. Komen