

IDF's Request of ACBSA

May 10, 2007

Marcia Boyle, President and Founder of the Immune Deficiency Foundation (IDF) presented IDF survey data to the Advisory Committee on Blood Safety and Availability (ACBSA). Her presentation, *Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases IVIG Access Overview* was based on three surveys conducted in 2006.

Ms. Boyle requested that the Advisory Committee go on record to state that Medicare reimbursement for IVIG is adversely affecting patient access and health. Additionally, Ms. Boyle called for:

1. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to make a recommendation to Congress for adjusting the Medicare reimbursement rate for IVIG.
2. CMS to keep the preadministration fee for IVIG until an acceptable solution has been reached.

This request was based on the results of the Office of Inspector General (OIG) report *Intravenous Immune Globulin: Medicare Payment and Availability*, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) report *Analysis of Supply, Distribution, and Access issues Associated with Immune Globulin Intravenous (IGIV)*, and data from the three IDF surveys.

Ms. Boyle commented, "41% of physicians and 44% of hospitals were unable to purchase IVIG below the Medicare reimbursement rates according to the OIG data for third quarter of 2006. This is not acceptable--especially since these percentages occurred under the best of circumstances, after reimbursement somewhat caught up with the price increases from earlier in the year. It is unrealistic to think that prices will not go up again. If 41% and 44% represent a rosy scenario -- we should recognize that patients have even more serious access problems than the reports demonstrate."

To see Marcia Boyle's presentation to ACBSA and find out more about the three IDF IVIG Access and Availability Surveys, visit the following:

[IDF Presentation to ACBSA, May 10, 2007](#)

[Access to Care Patient Survey Results- A Summary of 2006 Surveys](#)

[Assessing the Impact of Changes in Reimbursement Regulations and Product Availability on Access to Intravenous Gammaglobulin Treatment Among Primary Immune Deficiency Patients](#)

[The Immune Deficiency Foundation and American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Immunologist Survey Regarding IVIG Treatment](#)

[Hospital Usage of Intravenous Immunoglobulin: A 2006 Survey of Pharmacy Directors](#)