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SUPREME COURT RULES UNANIMOUS: REGULATES PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS
Decision confirms that states will have the right to regulate; brings clarity and optimism

Yesterday, December 10, 2020, the United States Supreme Court (Rutledge, Attorney General of Arkansas VS Pharmaceutical Care Management Association) unanimously decided that states can regulate Pharmacy Benefit Managers. Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM’s) are companies that oversee the prescription drug benefits on behalf of insurance companies along with Medicare Part D drug plans.

NCODA believes that this decision by the Supreme Court marks a significant day for pharmacists and pharmacies everywhere. Most importantly, this ruling provides patients the ability to have complete transparency when dealing with Pharmacy Benefit Managers and track the cost of their medications.

The continuation of cost shifting to patients makes it more difficult for them to receive the appropriate medication and treatments that would best equip them to fight their cancer diagnosis. NCODA is hopeful that with this ruling yesterday, the impact will be felt in the oncology community, in an exceptionally positive way. Giving individual states the opportunity to implement regulations that will be fair, transparent and keep the patients best interest at the forefront, is in our opinion, a resounding first step on the road to victory.

NCODA will continue our Mission to support patients and practices. Our organization and staff will remain firmly focused on this issue and as more information is published, we will continue our analysis of this and other important decisions.

If you would like to read the Supreme Court’s ruling, you can access the document here.

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Founder and Executive Director