2018 Year in Review

ACR ADVOCACY

Major Steps We Took in 2018

- Prevented MIPS adjustments on Part B drug reimbursements
- Boosted funding for NIH by $1.25 billion
- Stopped the proposed cuts to evaluation and management (E/M) services
-Blocked state actions to codify copay accumulators and to allow biosimilar substitution with no notice requirement.
-Met with HHS Secretary Azar, federal leaders on drug pricing reforms
-Advanced step therapy legislation and prior authorization legislation
-Prevented payer policies ending consultation codes payments and downcoding complex biologics
-Repealed caps on outpatient therapy in Medicare and PAB
-PBM reform passed
-Biosimilar substitution/notification bills passed

2018 by the numbers

-50+ comment letters to regulatory agencies and payers
-200+7 state and federal bills relating to rheumatology
-200+7 congressional briefings and Capitol Hill fly-ins
-16 published op-eds
-No. of #ProtectTimeWithPatients impressions regarding E/M cuts
-No. of Twitter impressions of #Act4Arthritis
-No. of ACR/ARHP member emails sent to Congress on rheumatology issues
-874,775+ impressions of #MedicareAccess during ACR Capitol Hill briefing
-1,061,293 news stories featured ACR's advocacy positions
-421,302,421

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