Federal Advocacy

- +$2 billion in NIH funding
- Medicare extended 365 look-back period protecting stable patients from step therapy
- Hill briefing on prevalence of arthritis in the military
- Bill to restrict use of prior authorization in house

Step therapy bills in House & Senate with 115 bipartisan co-sponsors

Pediatric Subspecialty Loan Repayment passes House; introduced in Senate

FDA finalized ACR-approved pathway for interchangeable biosimilars

Protect Part B drug payments, in-office treatments briefing

Hill briefing on need to boost DXA reimbursement & risks related to osteoporosis and fractures

Bills boosting DXA reimbursement with 54 bipartisan co-sponsors

State Advocacy

- 26 states with step therapy protections
- 45 states with restrictions on PBMs
- 49 states with biosimilar substitution legislation

Federal Advocacy

- Estimated 15% payment increase finalized for rheumatology, beginning in 2021.

2019 by the Numbers

- 6 published op-eds & letters to the editor
- 228 meetings between federal legislative offices & ACR/ARP volunteers
- 93 news stories featuring ACR’s advocacy positions
- 25 letters to payers
- 3,497,667 impressions of #Act4Arthritis
- 1,969 emails sent to Congress on rheumatology issues
- 1,546 federal emails sent through ACR
- 108 emails sent on state issues through ACR
- 315 emails sent through Simple Tasks