

NICA *THE* YEARBOOK

INFUSIONCENTER.ORG

WHO WE ARE.

National Infusion Center (NICA) is a nonprofit trade association and the nation's voice for non-hospital, community-based infusion providers that offer a safe, more affordable alternative to hospital care settings for provider-administered medications.

WHAT WE DO.

NICA's efforts are focused on delivery channel sustainability and expansion, buy-and-bill protection, maintaining net positive reimbursement, improving treatment adherence, and promoting patient safety and care quality.

We support policies that improve drug affordability for beneficiaries, increase price transparency, reduce disparities in quality of care and safety across care settings, and enable care delivery in the highest-quality, lowest-cost care setting.

Our goal is to help decision makers understand the value of receiving provider-administered medications in non-hospital care settings and ensure that the community-based infusion center remains a safe, more efficient, and more cost-effective alternative to hospital care settings.

WHY NICA?

NICA has been the nation's voice for infusion access since 2010, overcoming countless barriers to care, access obstacles, and threats to our nation's non-hospital, community-based delivery channel for provider-administered medications. The NICA team was instrumental in reversing several immediate threats in recent years that would have carried profound economic implications and significantly reduced access to care.

NICA is dedicated to ensuring that the nation's infusion centers remain a safe, more efficient, and more cost-effective alternative to hospital settings for consistent, high-quality care.



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National Infusion Center Association



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NICA'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING COVID-19 RELIEF



NICA's dedicated locator tool for COVID-19 monoclonal antibody therapies (CmAbs) has assisted both prescribers and patients in identifying convenient locations to treat COVID-19.

1,396,051

searches since January 1, 2021

visit

**INFUSIONCENTER.ORG/
ABOUT-US/PRESS**

to see the CmAb Locator's press mentions for the year

NICA created the [COVID-19 Antibody Therapy Resource Center](#) on our website for providers, prescribers, and patients to access resources for receiving, administering, and ordering COVID-19 monoclonal antibody infusions.

225,301

views since January 1, 2021



BONUS:

NICA co-hosted a webinar with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) titled "Increasing Access and Utilization of COVID-19 mAbs at Infusion Centers"

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SPOTLIGHT ON: NICA'S ADVOCACY WINS

MAR
'21

NICA, Janssen Inc., and Provider Members such as DENT Neurologic Institute, urged CMS to make technical corrections for its 2021 reimbursement rates so that SPRAVATO, the only provider-administered nasal spray for treatment-resistant depression could remain a viable option for these patients.

APR
'21

When Thyroid Eye Disease patients were affected by TEPEZZA supply disruption due to vaccine production prioritization, NICA met with 10 Hill offices across both parties and chambers, spoke with the FDA, and had ongoing meetings with Horizon leadership to help pressure the FDA to resume production. In April of 2021, the FDA approved an updated manufacturing arrangement to meet current and future demand.

FOR MORE ↪

Become a NICA Provider Member to receive our Biweekly Push newsletter and other advocacy updates



NICA'S INAUGURAL HILL DAY

JUN
'21

NICA met with several members of Congress to represent the provider-administered medication delivery channel.

We educated lawmakers and advocated on behalf of providers to prevent threats to the sustainability of non-hospital, community-based infusion centers.

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LOOKING BACK ON #NICA2021

JUN
'21

The #NICA2021 meeting was a huge success! Despite the virtual environment, the feedback from attendees was that our virtual platform and content offered a dynamic, organized, and engaging learning and networking experience. For those who attended, we hope that you have been able to take what you learned back to your practices as you continue providing the most efficient, safe, and high-quality care settings for some of the nation's most vulnerable patients.

SPOTLIGHT:

NICA'S LEP COURSE

JUL
'21

NICA launched its first continuing education program in July about the Role of Limited English Proficiency (or LEP) in Health Disparities. LEP has broad implications for infusion providers and our free course offers solutions for mitigating risk when treating LEP patients. After completing the course, learners receive template forms (Communication Preferences Questionnaire) and policies including a Language Assistance Plan. Most importantly, as part of this program we have arranged for NICA Provider Members to take advantage of a partnership with Language Line to use their translation/interpretation services with no startup costs, monthly fees or required minimums-- they will only pay for the minutes they use, around a dollar a minute. [INFUSIONCENTER.ORG/LEP](https://www.infusioncenter.org/lep)

READY FOR #NICA2022?

Join us June 17-18, 2022 for the 2022 National Infusion Center Annual Conference. This year, we are so excited to host the event in person in New Orleans!

900 COURSE
COMPLETIONS
THUS FAR!



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AS A MEMBER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS FAIL FIRST COALITION AND THE CALIFORNIA UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT COALITION, NICA'S ADVOCACY WORK BROUGHT SIGNIFICANT Q3 WINS:

**Q3
'21**

In California, AB 347 in CA is now a law, establishing a more patient-friendly and timely step therapy exception process. NICA went on the record at the start of Q3 in support of the bill and has written several letters to committee members and Governor Newsom.

In Massachusetts, NICA was able to connect Board Member Marissa Shackleton with the MA Fail First Coalition to participate in a legislative briefing that was vital to educating legislators in the state on what step therapy is and the impact it can have on patients and providers. Thank you so much for your help Marissa! Targeted engagement is what really connects the dots for lawmakers in understanding how delivery channel issues impact real people in their states.

UNITED HEALTHCARE DELAYED CLAIMS WIN!

**AUG
'21**

In August, NICA wrote to United Healthcare (UHC) to express our concerns regarding the claims processing delays for high-dollar drugs that many of our Provider Members were experiencing. UHC responded directly to our letter, acknowledging our concerns and implementing a detailed plan to alleviate bottlenecks with the claims adjudication process, including improvements to their back-end coding procedure. This is just one of many NICA advocacy wins. To learn more, get on the list for the Biweekly Push!



BIWEEKLY PUSH

This year, NICA launched a new e-blast for Provider Members called the Biweekly Push dedicated to important advocacy updates that are specifically relevant for infusion providers across the country. We recap our action and impact on current legislation, fill you in on important updates in the infusion policy landscape, and give insight about what's ahead. Don't miss out! Become a Provider Member today.



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