



The New American Health Care Act: Dangerous Changes for Patients, Communities, and our Country

The National Physicians Alliance has deep concerns about the impact of proposals in the American Health Care Act (AHCA) on patients, and communities across the country, especially the devastating effects its policies would have on safety net systems that protect the health of millions of Americans.

- In 10 years, a total of 24 million more people will be uninsured under the AHCA than is projected under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). All told, the number of uninsured Americans under the House Republicans' bill will be even higher than before the ACA was passed.
- \$880 billion dollars will be cut from the Medicaid program through elimination of the Medicaid expansion and a fundamental restructuring of the Medicaid program. This massive, unprecedented cost shift to states means 14 million people will lose Medicaid coverage and millions of seniors, disabled individuals, and other vulnerable populations who rely on the program will be at risk.
- Premiums and out-of-pocket costs will increase, particularly for older adults and those with lower incomes. At the same time, plans available on the marketplace will be less comprehensive than they are today—meaning individuals will be paying more for less.

Under the proposed AHCA, the number of uninsured people will skyrocket and dramatically increase over time:

- By 2026, 24 million more Americans will be uninsured than under ACA. This means that in 2026, under the AHCA, 52 million people would be uninsured. Under current law, 28 million people would be uninsured by 2026.
- In 2018 alone, 14 million more people would be uninsured than under ACA.
- By 2020, roughly 17% of non-elderly adults (or 48 million people) will be uninsured. That is 21 million more uninsured people under the AHCA than we'd see under the ACA.

Under the AHCA out-of-pocket costs for patients will rise while the wealthy and big corporations get tax breaks at their expense:

- Health insurance plans will cover a lower share of policy-holders' health care costs, consumers will face higher deductibles and cost-sharing.
- Low-income consumers will be particularly affected by higher out-of-pocket costs.
- Premiums will significantly increase for older and low-income consumers, leaving many with no option for affordable coverage.
- The AHCA provides nearly \$600 billion in tax breaks to high-income earners and health insurers.

The AHCA will negatively impact people with all different types of health coverage. In 2020, compared to current law, under the AHCA:

- 9 million fewer people will have coverage through the individual market
- 9 million fewer people will be covered through Medicaid
- 2 million fewer people will have coverage through their employer

The proposed American Health Care Act eliminates the *Prevention and Public Health Fund* established by the Affordable Care Act:

- Eliminating the *Prevention and Public Health Fund* will significantly undermine efforts to fight things disease outbreaks, food-borne infections, childhood lead poisonings, deadly drug-resistant superbugs, and other public health threats.

The National Physicians Alliance urges Congress to build on health care gains begun by Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act, not undermine and dismantle them by moving the American Health Care Act forward.

The National Physicians Alliance is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that offers a professional home to physicians across medical specialties. We create research and education programs that promote health and foster active engagement of physicians with their communities. The NPA accepts no funding from pharmaceutical or medical device companies.

Learn more at NPAlliance.org