

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 23, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy:

We write to request information on recent announcements regarding prescription drug pricing made at White House press conferences that you participated in. On September 30, the Trump Administration announced it was creating a new direct-to-consumer (DTC) platform it is calling “TrumpRx,” and that a pricing agreement had been reached with Pfizer to sell its drugs at prices “in line with the lower rates paid by other developed countries.”¹ On October 10, a similar agreement with AstraZeneca was announced, and other pharmaceutical companies have made public statements about their participation in TrumpRx or are reportedly in discussions with the Administration about similar agreements.² The TrumpRx initiative was announced with a lot of pomp and circumstance but few details, and we are concerned that it will not meaningfully reduce the price of prescription drugs.³ The TrumpRx.gov website has not been launched, and many important issues remain unclear, including who will be able to use the DTC platform, which drugs will be available through the platform, if it will be integrated into similar DTC programs offered by pharmaceutical companies or online pharmacies, how the prices of drugs purchased through TrumpRx will be set, and how any “discounts” will be made transparent.

To date, the Administration has withheld the terms of the pricing agreements with Pfizer and AstraZeneca from the public. Therefore, we have no idea what drugs will be included, what parameters are used to compare prices across other developed countries and what countries are considered for comparison, and whether these prices will actually be lower than current net prices.⁴ The high cost of prescription drugs is a tremendous burden for American families, and it is impossible for policymakers and patients to assess the benefits of the new platform and agreement without further information on how it will be designed and managed.

As part of the announcement with Pfizer, President Trump explained that his administration would be providing every state Medicaid agency a discounted price for purchasing drugs to provide to Medicaid beneficiaries and launching a website from which

¹ *Trump Announces Deal with Pfizer to Lower Drug Prices, New ‘TrumpRx’ Website*, The Washington Post (Sept. 30, 2025).

² *Trump Announces a Deal on Drug Prices with AstraZeneca*, The New York Times (Oct. 10, 2025).

³ *Pfizer to Lower Some Drug Prices as White House Builds “TrumpRx” Website*, CBS News (Oct. 1, 2025).

⁴ *Pfizer, Pfizer Reaches Landmark Agreement with U.S. Government to Lower Drug Costs for American Patients* (Sept. 30, 2025) (press release).

Americans can buy prescription medications at a discounted rate directly, without going through the insurance they and/or their employers are paying monthly premiums for.⁵ This announcement came in exchange for a three-year delay on all tariffs.⁶ Subsequently, Amgen also stated that it would link its own DTC platform to TrumpRx.⁷ Through reporting, other Administration officials stated that the Administration “hopes” to make the TrumpRx platform available in early 2026, stating that it would be “the place where they can go direct-to-consumer and access the lowest prices available.”⁸ However, that is the extent of information that has been provided about TrumpRx thus far.

While other DTC models are available to consumers through pharmaceutical manufacturers and other health care companies, the federal government has never been involved in the direct sale of prescription drugs in this way. It is impossible to determine whether this platform can guarantee that consumers will pay lower prices due to the Administration’s complete lack of transparency about how such prices will be calculated and evaluated. In fact, experts are already predicting that this action alone will not lower costs for consumers.⁹

“It’s a lot of nothing,” Craig Garthwaite, the director of the health-care program at Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management, [said]. “For most people, it will have very little effect on drug prices.” Rena Conti, an economist and expert on the biopharmaceutical industry who works at Boston University’s Questrom School of Business, issued a similar assessment: “Top line is: it’s a win for Pfizer, but not a win for American patients.” Rather than radically restructuring drug pricing and distribution, the agreement amounted to “fiddling around the edges,” she said.¹⁰

We are concerned that the American people will not benefit from this platform. Instead, we see the potential for outside vendors to benefit from federal contracts to manage the platform and access individuals’ data. Pharmaceutical companies could also benefit by making relatively minor concessions on pricing practices to avoid the greater threat of tariffs, while also circumventing price concessions and rebates typically required in negotiations with health plans. Companies could also make these agreements to access the new Commissioner’s National Priority Voucher pilot program for faster, potentially rushed reviews at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for new drug products. For instance, we note that President Trump’s son

⁵ *Trump Announces ‘TrumpRx’ Site for Discounted Drugs and Deal with Pfizer to Lower Prices*, CNN (Sept. 30, 2025).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ Amgen, *Amgen makes Repatha® Available through AmgenNow, a Direct-To-Patient Program in the U.S.* (Oct. 6, 2025) (press release).

⁸ *Trump Announces ‘TrumpRx’ Website for Pharmaceutical Drugs after Pfizer Deal*, ABC News (Sept. 30, 2025).

⁹ *President Announces TrumpRx Website for Drugs, and Pricing Deal with Pfizer*, NPR (Sept. 30, 2025).

¹⁰ *Donald Trump’s Big Pharma Showdown Ends with a Whimper*, The New Yorker (Oct. 6, 2025).

is a board member of an online pharmacy company called BlinkRx, which is in a position to profit from the Administration's new initiative.¹¹

Without more transparency, we cannot properly oversee the development and effectiveness of a new government prescription drug purchasing platform and the alleged price reductions. We are disappointed that the Administration has, once again, not been forthcoming about its plans with Congress or the public about a major announcement that claims to affect the affordability of health care for the American people.

We are deeply concerned that this DTC platform, centralized through TrumpRx.gov, will be yet another Administration action that enriches companies and industries with close ties to President Trump while doing nothing to reduce the excessively high costs of prescription drugs for Americans.

In order to better understand the implications of this announcement and its impact on prescription drug pricing, we request answers to the questions below by November 6, 2025.

1. When will the TrumpRx website be operational and what federal agency or operating division will be responsible for managing the website?
2. Will TrumpRx interact with other existing DTC programs offered by Pfizer, AstraZeneca, Amgen, or other pharmaceutical companies? If so, provide details on which external websites will be connected to the new TrumpRx and whether and how data will be shared between different systems.
3. Will all patients be eligible to purchase drugs through TrumpRx? Or will there be any restrictions that would exclude beneficiaries who have prescription drug coverage through Medicare, Medicaid, or other types of insurance? Will any spending on the TrumpRx platform be included in any out-of-pocket accumulation towards out-of-pocket maximums included in individuals' insurance?
4. What prescription drugs will be available through TrumpRx?
 - a. Who is responsible for deciding what drugs can be purchased through the platform?
 - b. Are there specific criteria that will be used to make these decisions? If so, provide a description of the criteria.
 - c. Will TrumpRx have the same eligibility, prices, and other related terms as those offered through existing DTC programs? Will TrumpRx provide access to all

¹¹ *In Wake of Trump's Request for Direct Drug Sales, BlinkRx Debuts Off-The-Shelf DTC Platform for Pharmas*, Fierce Pharma (Aug. 12, 2025); *Trump Wants to Overhaul Drug Sales. A Company Tied to His Son Stands to Benefit.*, The Wall Street Journal (Oct. 7, 2025).

drugs with a manufacturer DTC price?

5. Will drugs that have been selected for negotiation through the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program also be available through the new government DTC platform and, if so, how will the prices of those drugs compare to the prices negotiated for Medicare beneficiaries?

6. How will prices be set for the prescription drugs that will be sold through the website? If prices will be calculated based on prices in other countries, what is the full list of countries that will be used for that calculation?

a. What, if any, discounts and fees are included and calculated?

b. How will the discounts be made transparent and on what are the discounts based?

c. How will these discounts interact with or compare to other discounts the federal government received, either through Medicaid Best Price, 340B, the Department of Veterans Affairs pricing, or other federally required or negotiated discounts?

7. Will the government be issuing any federal contracts for the development or management of TrumpRx? If so, indicate what specific functions will be carried out by contractors, when those contract opportunities will be noticed, whether those contracts will be open for competition, and when those contracts will be awarded.

8. What entity will own and control data on the TrumpRx website? What entities will have access to that data and how will it be secured?

9. Does the Administration plan to hire pharmacists or other health care professionals for this new initiative? If so, how many people does the Administration expect to hire?

10. How will the platform ensure protected health information remains secure, particularly related to prescription information and patient diagnoses that are input into the platform?

11. Will any of these agreements affect in any way access to the FDA's Commissioner's National Priority Voucher Pilot Program?

12. With respect to any discounted prices that will be offered to state Medicaid agencies for purposes of purchasing drugs for Medicaid beneficiaries, how do these drug prices compare to the prices state Medicaid agencies pay under the current law Medicaid Drug Rebate Program?

a. How will state Medicaid agencies access these prices?

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b. How will these prices be factored into the calculation of Medicaid “best price”, and Average Manufacturer Price (AMP), which has a cascading effect on drug prices in other coverage programs?

If you have any questions about this request, please contact the Energy and Commerce Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-2927, the Ways and Means Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-3625, or the Finance Committee Democratic staff at (202) 224-4515.

Sincerely,



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy and
Commerce



Richard E. Neal
Ranking Member
House Committee on Ways and Means



Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Finance

cc: The Honorable Mehmet Oz
Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman
House Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Jason Smith
Chairman
House Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Chairman
Senate Committee on Finance