



[Credit to Fitzpatrick for supporting patient access bill](#)

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Cancer touches a lot of families here in Pennsylvania. Roughly 90,000 Pennsylvanians are diagnosed with cancer every year, and Medicare plays an important role in ensuring cancer patients get the treatment they need.

Patients in Bucks County already travel farther than they should have to for cancer care. When we talk about access, it's not an abstract policy issue. It's the reality between being treated by a physician right down the street or enduring bumper-to-bumper traffic on I-76 every time you get chemo in the city. That's why I'm glad Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick signed onto the Protecting Patient Access to Cancer and Complex Therapies Act (H.R. 4299).

This legislation will address a looming threat to local cancer care. Federal law will soon reduce how Medicare reimburses doctors for some cancer drugs administered in community oncology clinics. These are treatments we must purchase, store and administer in our offices. If reimbursement drops, some practices won't be able to offer them or treat the same number of patients. With limited access to local care, patients may be forced to drive farther and pay more for hospital-based care.

H.R. 4299 fixes this looming issue — maintaining payments to independent clinics while preserving drug savings for patients. It's a practical solution that preserves access to care while protecting affordability. Community cancer care is critical for Pennsylvania patients and families. Representative Fitzpatrick recognizes this, and I encourage him to continue working with his colleagues to pass this legislation as quickly as possible.

Moshe Chasky, M.D.
Alliance Cancer Specialists
Bensalem

