



THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

MEMORANDUM

July 9, 2014

To: Members, Subcommittee on Health

From: Majority Committee Staff

Re: Hearing Entitled “21st Century Cures: Incorporating the Patient Perspective”

On Friday, July 11, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. in 2322 Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Health will hold a hearing entitled “21st Century Cures: Incorporating the Patient Perspective.” This hearing will focus on how to incorporate the perspective of patients in the discovery, development and delivery of treatments and cures.

I. WITNESSES

Panel I

Janet Woodcock, M.D.
Director
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Food and Drug Administration

Panel II

Richard F. Pops
Chairman and CEO
Alkermes

Robert J. Beall, Ph.D.
President and CEO
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Pat Furlong
Founding President and CEO
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy

Leonard Lichtenfeld, M.D.
Deputy Chief Medical Office
American Cancer Society

Marshall Summar, M.D.
Director
Scientific Advisory Committee

National Organization for Rare Diseases

II. BACKGROUND

Since the launch of the 21st Century Cures initiative, the committee has received substantial input on how to accelerate the discovery-development-delivery cycle of cures. This input includes the invaluable discussion at the two roundtables¹ and two Health Subcommittee hearings² as well as the comments submitted in response to the white papers.³

On May 16, 2014, the Committee released a white paper to solicit ideas and feedback specifically from the patient community. Certain aspects of the discovery, development, and delivery cycle have different meanings for different patients. Depending on the condition or disease at issue, the state of biomedical research, and the translation of such research into treatments and cures, varies.

The white paper included questions, among others, related to state of basic research, the activity of public-private partnerships, and advances in treatment and cures on the horizon. The answers to these questions and other will help inform the Committee as it considers solutions to leverage the knowledge and insight of the patient community.

III. STAFF CONTACTS

Should you have any questions regarding the hearing, please contact Brenda Destro, Paul Edattel, Carly McWilliams, Katie Novaria, or John Stone.

¹ Roundtable held on May 6, 2014, opening the 21st Century Cures initiative and roundtable held on June 24, 2014, on digital medicine.

² Hearing held on May 20, 2014 entitled: “21st Century Cures: The President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) Report on Drug Innovation” and hearing held on June 11, 2014 entitled “21st Century Cures: Examining the Role of Incentives in Advancing Treatments and Cures for Patients”

³ The white papers and stakeholder comments can be found here: <http://energycommerce.house.gov/cures>