



Government Affairs: Program Description



Overview

Given the significant, ongoing changes in the healthcare delivery system, the Innovatix Government Affairs Program is designed to keep members informed about new regulations and pending legislation, advise members about the business impact of these policies, and advocate on behalf of members to the Administration and Congress. Dating back to 2008, the Government Affairs Program has been a reliable source of news and a center for action on issues that matter to our members.

As the nation's leading non-acute care group purchasing organization (GPO), Innovatix's membership base is broad. While the Government Affairs Program focuses on the specific needs of home infusion providers and retail and mail-order, specialty, long-term care, and infusion pharmacies, Innovatix stands ready to advocate on behalf of our senior living provider members (nursing homes and assisted living facilities). As a joint venture between the business arm of the Greater New York Hospital Association and Premier (a nationally renowned GPO and performance improvement organization), Innovatix is able to leverage the advocacy resources of both of our parent organizations as well as the strength of our national membership base.

Key Strengths of the Government Affairs Program

- › **Our Advocacy for Members.** Working with over 23,000 members, Innovatix has a strong voice in our nation's capital. Our staff researches relevant policy issues on a daily basis and acts quickly on legislation and regulations that may impact member businesses. The breadth and reach of our members make our unified voice stronger on Capitol Hill and to the Administration. Innovatix also belongs to the Healthcare Supply Chain Association, which provides another means of advancing the interests of GPOs in Washington.
- › **Our Resources.** The Innovatix Government Affairs Program distributes timely, substantive updates to members through newsletters, action alerts, comment letters, position papers, conference calls, webinars, and more. Our affiliation with Premier allows us to leverage additional resources and networks.
- › **Our Team.** Shara Siegel, Director of Government Affairs, runs the Innovatix Government Affairs Program. She focuses on Innovatix advocacy, keeping members apprised of what is happening in D.C., while keeping Capitol Hill and the Administration aware of our top advocacy positions. To this end, Shara works closely with Dumbarton Group & Associates, an advocacy firm based in Washington, D.C., to amplify our advocacy efforts. Our team also includes GNYHA Ventures Vice President Aisling Zaccarelli and Nexera Senior Advisor Bruce Vladeck, former Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
- › **Our Code of Conduct.** The Healthcare Group Purchasing Industry Initiative (HGPII) was founded in 2005 to promote and monitor best ethical and business practices in purchasing for hospitals and other healthcare providers. The only non-acute care GPO member of HGPII, Innovatix is committed to business transparency and observing a strict Code of Conduct, which is available on our website.
- › **Our National Meeting.** Innovatix hosts an annual meeting, which includes a robust government affairs track. The government affairs sessions feature select topics of interest from a regulatory and legislative standpoint. The meeting also provides networking opportunities with industry colleagues, leading policy makers, community leaders, and other stakeholders and offers continuing education credits for members.

For more information or to learn how you can get involved, please contact Shara Siegel, Director of Government Affairs, at ssiegel@innovatix.com or (212) 901-1264.



Government Affairs: Resources Available to Members



The Innovatix Government Affairs program is constantly growing in its reach. We have a number of resources to equip our members with information on policy issues that may affect their businesses and to help them effect change with elected officials.

Innovatix Government Affairs offers the following resources to members:

- › **Timely position papers and updates** on legislative and regulatory issues that advance member interests. Examples include:
 - A Comprehensive Medicare Home Infusion Benefit: The Site of Care Act
 - Maximum Allowable Cost Transparency Legislation
 - Medicare Payment for DME-Infused Drugs
 - FDA Oversight of Interstate Drug Compounding
 - Pharmacy Prorated Daily Dispensing Fees
- › **Comment letters** to the CMS, the FDA, the EPA, and other government agencies about pending regulations that impact our members. Examples include:
 - CMS Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities
 - FDA Compounding Memorandum of Understanding
 - FDA Repackaging of Certain Human Drug Products by Pharmacies and Outsourcing Facilities
 - EPA Management Standards for Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals
- › **Webinars** on key policy issues and topics affecting our members. Topics include:
 - Medicare and Medicaid compliance
 - Privacy law updates
 - Legislation that impacts member businesses
 - New payment and care models
- › **Monthly e-newsletters** that keep members abreast of regulatory and legislative developments
- › **Action Alerts** about pending policies that prompt members to voice opinions and concerns
- › **Virtual lobby days** on key legislation
- › **Technical 1:1 member assistance** on complex regulations

To learn more about how our Government Affairs team or how you can get involved, please contact Shara Siegel, Director of Government Affairs, at ssiegel@innovatix.com or (212) 901-1264.