INSURANCE AND REGULATORY CHALLENGES ARE HARMING THE FIGHT AGAINST OPIOID ADDICTION

Insurance coverage, reimbursement and regulatory challenges are preventing access to innovative treatments for pain and addiction. These barriers also are adversely impacting the investment needed to develop safer, next-generation therapies to treat pain and addiction that can help today to tame the opioid crisis.

Restrictive Insurance Coverage

Restrictive insurance coverage and reimbursement policies are preventing access to safer treatments for pain and addiction.

The New York Times

Amid Opioid Crisis, Insurers Restrict Pricey, Less Addictive Painkillers

BUSINESS INSIDER

Pain Doctors: Insurance Companies Won't Cover the Alternatives to Opioids

Pi ProPublica

Pressure Mounts on Insurance Companies to Consider Their Role in Opioid Epidemic

Breaking Down Barriers

A number of reforms are needed to help ensure appropriate access to pain and addiction treatments — as well as the development of next generation treatments:
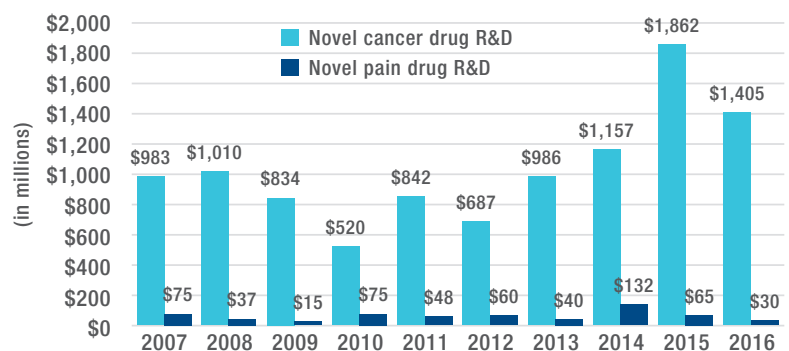
▶ **Eliminating** insurance coverage barriers that impede patients' access to the most appropriate treatments.

▶ **Increasing** expertise and resources within the FDA to ensure effective and efficient drug development and review processes for innovative treatments for pain and addiction.

▶ **Enhancing** and improving the ability to utilize expedited approval pathways to innovative treatments for pain and addiction.

▶ **Partnering** with key stakeholders in government, academia and industry to stimulate R&D and advance our understanding of the biology of pain and addiction.

Spurring Investment in Innovation

As America grapples with opioid abuse and addiction, the numbers show venture capital investments in new treatments for pain and addiction have been far less than in areas like oncology due to concerns over market barriers.

Over the past 10 years, venture investment in novel oncology research and development (R&D) was **17x** more than investment in pain management programs… **and even less venture investment** goes to developing novel approaches to treat addiction.

Venture Investment in U.S. Companies with Novel Drug Lead Program in Cancer vs. Pain

(in millions)

■ Novel cancer drug R&D
■ Novel pain drug R&D

Year	Novel cancer drug R&D	Novel pain drug R&D
2007	$983	$75
2008	$1,010	$37
2009	$834	$15
2010	$520	$75
2011	$842	$48
2012	$687	$60
2013	$986	$40
2014	$1,157	$132
2015	$1,862	$65
2016	$1,405	$30

Source: Emerging Therapeutic Company Investment and Deal Trends — BIO Industry Analysis (2007–2016)