

Reject Medicaid Cuts

REQUEST: The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) respectfully requests that you reject any cuts that would impact Medicaid coverage for vulnerable populations, especially children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and pregnant women. We urge you to prioritize Medicaid policy changes that target fraud and abuse in the program that diverts critical funding from those most in need.

BACKGROUND: Congress recently adopted a joint budget resolution to advance President Trump's domestic policy agenda through a future budget reconciliation process. The budget blueprint aims to reduce the budget deficit by at least \$1.5 trillion. The AAAAI is concerned that the level of savings, e.g., \$880 billion in savings over the next decade from the Committee on Energy and Commerce, is difficult to achieve without impacting the Medicaid program.

IMPACT TO ALLERGY/IMMUNOLOGY: Medicaid serves our most vulnerable populations,¹ covering over 8 in 10 children in poverty and almost half of all adults in poverty. Medicaid is essential in delivering asthma care, particularly for children and adults with low incomes. The program helps cover the costs associated with managing asthma, including medications, regular doctor visits, and emergency room care. The impact of Medicaid funding cuts would be harmful to both patients and healthcare providers, as described below.

- Medicaid beneficiaries are substantially less likely to postpone or go without care, and patients need access to allergist/immunologists.²
- Lack of access to allergy care impacts health outcomes for children with atopic conditions like food allergy.³
- Medicaid populations who were able to receive allergy immunotherapy saw significant reductions in pharmacy, outpatient and inpatient costs.⁴
- Over 55% of US Allergists accept Medicaid, but reimbursement rates are already among the list of challenges Medicaid programs face in addressing gaps in coverage.⁵
- Cutting Medicaid funding will exacerbate these coverage gaps and likely lead to layoffs in the healthcare system as Medicaid makes up roughly 19% of hospital funding.⁶

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¹ <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/10-things-to-know-about-medicaid/>

² Ibid.

³ <https://www.ajmc.com/view/geographic-variability-of-medicaid-acceptance-among-allergists-in-the-us>

⁴ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18206509/>

⁵ <https://www.ajmc.com/view/geographic-variability-of-medicaid-acceptance-among-allergists-in-the-us>

⁶ <https://www.healthcare-brew.com/stories/2025/03/05/medicaid-cuts-affect-healthcare-workers>