

IRA THREATENS TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS BATTLING INFLUENZA, EPSTEIN BARR VIRUS



Study Shows Government-Mandated Drug Pricing Policies Threaten Development of Future Treatments for Infectious Diseases

A new study by research firm Vital Transformation estimates that there would be hundreds of lost therapies if Congress expands new aggressive government-mandated drug price setting policies, including many in development to treat infectious diseases, the cause of more than 10 million doctor visits in the U.S. annually¹.

LOST THERAPIES



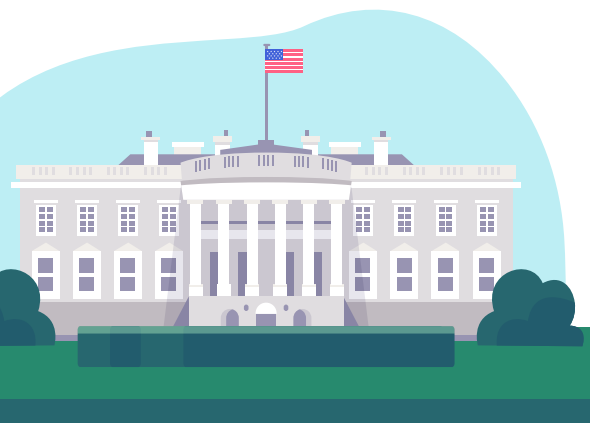
70% of all currently available medicines – treatments Americans rely on every day – would likely never have been created, including nearly 10 different treatments for infectious diseases.

LOST INNOVATION



237 fewer medicines will be FDA-approved over the next decade, especially in areas where we are desperately seeking cures – like Influenza, Epstein Barr Virus and Ebola.

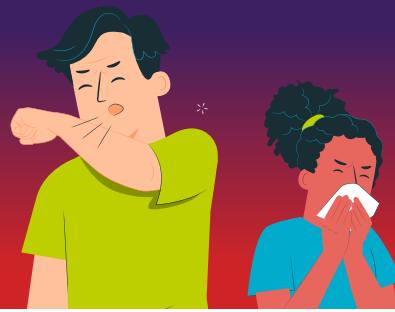
MAJOR SETBACK FOR WHITE HOUSE'S HEALTH EQUITY AGENDA



A well-publicized goal for the current White House Administration is tackling the inequitable effects of infectious diseases on racial minorities and LGBTQI+ populations². Communicable diseases disproportionately impact underserved communities – Americans with unreliable access to safe drinking water, basic sanitation, housing, nutrition and income.




In the aftermath of the global war against the highly contagious coronavirus, the challenge of curtailing outbreaks in an increasingly connected world has been thrust into the spotlight. Despite this, the IRA is set to derail progress in the battle against infectious diseases and exacerbate existing health disparities.

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PREVALENCE

LOSS OF RESOURCES

 <p>EPSTEIN BARR VIRUS</p>	<p>Nine out of every ten people have been infected with a herpesvirus known as Epstein Barr virus (EBV).³</p>	<p>\$872 million+</p>
 <p>INFLUENZA</p>	<p>Seasonal influenza alone causes 5 million cases of severe illness annually, resulting in an estimated 650,000 respiratory deaths worldwide each year.⁴</p>	<p>\$700 million+</p>
 <p>EBOLA</p>	<p>Ebola virus disease, a rare but often fatal illness in humans, can be spread for as long as a person's body contains the virus, even after they have died.⁵</p>	<p>\$20 million</p>

Government-mandated drug pricing policies **will cause significant investment losses** for communicable disease research and development – **a reduction of nearly \$4 billion nationwide** toward drug advancements for large anti-infective and micro-orphan conditions.

WHAT INFECTIOUS DISEASE DRUG INNOVATORS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE IRA

“This would upend the current self-sustaining cycle of pharmaceutical innovation that provides patients with access to pioneering treatments.”
– **Statement released by Johnson & Johnson.**⁶

“Despite its claim to promote ‘negotiation,’ the IRA imposes government-set pricing on prescription drugs available under Medicare that will discourage private-sector investment in the discovery and development of new medicines. As a result, the Program will disincentivize critical R&D efforts to tackle hard-to-treat diseases and diminish the availability of new medicines for patients.” – **Statement released by Astellas.**⁷

“Patients and the public need biopharmaceutical innovation to address global health challenges... the IRA is negatively affecting critical research and development. By changing the incentives and returns for some therapies and technologies over others, the IRA is changing the course of R&D, which in time will leave many patients without treatment options.” – **Statement released by Merck leadership.**⁸

LEARN MORE

The new study issued by We Work For Health (WWFH) and Vital Transformation modeled the impacts on industry revenues, jobs and future research and development investments. For the full study, please visit [We Work For Health](#).

1. National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: 2019 National Summary Tables. [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#). 2019.
2. FACT SHEET: President Biden’s Budget Advances Equity. [The White House Briefing Room](#). March 9, 2023.
3. Epstein Bar Virus. [National Institutes of Health: National Library of Medicine](#). August 8, 2023.
4. Fact Sheet: Influenza (Seasonal). [World Health Organization](#). January 12, 2023.

5. Fact Sheet: Ebola virus disease. [World Health Organization](#). April 20, 2023.
6. Statement: Protecting the Healthcare Innovation Ecosystem. [Johnson & Johnson](#). July 18, 2023.
7. Astellas Pharma US Statement on Legal Action Regarding the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). [Astellas Newsroom](#). July 18, 2023.
8. The Inflation Reduction Act’s Negative Impact on Patient-Focused Innovation, Value and Access. [Merck Media](#). June 6, 2023.