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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Statement on “Most-Favored Nation” Drug Pricing Rule  
By Eleanor M. Perfetto, PhD, MS, Interim Chief Executive Officer  
and Executive Vice President of Strategic Initiatives**

November 20, 2020

Today, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid released a final “most-favored nation” rule, linking government payments to drug prices paid in foreign countries. The National Health Council agrees, people with chronic diseases and disabilities are poorly served by our current pharmaceutical pricing and coverage system. However, it is irresponsible to finalize this rule without an opportunity for public comment and to leave it for the next administration to implement. The NHC is a long-time supporter of appropriate value assessment that uses patient engagement and input to ensure value is evaluated from the patient perspective. We are concerned that, through this rule, the government could define value based on the needs, perceptions, and preferences of people in other countries, without considering the views of US patients.

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*Created by and for patient organizations 100 years ago, the National Health Council (NHC) brings diverse organizations together to forge consensus and drive patient-centered health policy. We promote increased access to affordable, high-value, sustainable health care. Made up of more than 140 national health-related organizations and businesses, the NHC’s core membership includes the nation’s leading patient organizations. Other members include health-related associations and nonprofit organizations including the provider, research, and family caregiver communities; and businesses representing biopharmaceutical, device, diagnostic, generic drug, and payer organizations. Learn more at: <http://www.nationalhealthcouncil.org>*