Support the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2020

March 23, 2020

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Chair  
Energy and Commerce Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Chair  
Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Greg Walden  
Ranking Member  
Energy and Commerce Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Ranking Member  
Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member Walden, Chairman Neal, and Ranking Member Brady,

The undersigned organizations express their support for the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2020. Sponsored by Representative Eliot Engel, this bill would provide access to essential nutrition care services under Medicare Part B.

Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) is a multifaceted service that includes nutritional diagnosis, therapy, and counseling for the purpose of disease management. MNT is furnished by a registered dietitian or other qualified nutrition professional and is integral to the prevention, treatment, and management of chronic conditions such as diabetes, kidney disease, obesity, malnutrition, eating disorders, and more.

Current law only allows Medicare Part B to cover MNT services for renal disease and diabetes, leaving millions of seniors without access to comprehensive care. The Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2020 would expand Medicare Part B MNT coverage to include prediabetes, obesity, hypertension, dyslipidemia, malnutrition, eating disorders, cancer, celiac disease, HIV/AIDS, and conditions related to unintentional weight loss.

Two-thirds of Medicare beneficiaries suffer from multiple chronic conditions. Medical nutrition therapy is a cost-effective part of care for many of these costly conditions. We encourage you and your colleagues to help ensure that seniors have access to care by supporting the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2020.

Sincerely,
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If you have any questions, please contact Hannah Martin (hmartin@eatright.org) with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Link to Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2020 text

Do you have permission to sign your organization onto this letter? *

- Yes
- No

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