

## **NYBA position statement on Drug Reimbursement:**

The biotechnology industry was founded on the desire to provide solutions for vast unmet medical needs. Finding treatments to the multitude of diseases afflicting humankind is one of the reasons the industry exists. NYBA, as the representative of New York's biotechnology industry, is committed to protecting patient access to these new innovative therapies.

NYBA believes it is crucial to view all reforms to state funded health care programs in terms of how new policies will affect capital formation for future biotech drug development, and whether reimbursement levels are adequate to encourage research and development necessary to find the next generation cutting edge cures and therapies.

As in other states across the country, New York is sharply focused on reducing the per capita costs of health care as a means to deal with budgetary constraints. However the quality and/or access to advanced technology health care may be compromised due to these budgetary considerations. There is danger in creating a quick-fix solution such as PDLs (Preferred Drug Lists) without considering the impact such legislation would have on New York's biotechnology industry and ultimately the patient populations that will benefit from new life-saving drugs.

NYBA is dedicated to working with New York on crafting well-researched programs that will take into consideration all of the investment the state has made into its biotechnology industry, and the healthcare needs of its citizens. We strongly encourage New York to consider the improvements in the quality of life the advanced technologies produced by the biotechnology industry provide, and the total cost of patient care, not just the initial price of the medication or treatment.

- NYBA supports programs that provide unlimited and free access to all medicines and therapies.
- NYBA supports programs that provide prompt response to requests for treatment.
- NYBA opposes programs, such as PDLs, that prevent the industry from freely marketing their products and receiving fair-market value and return on their investments in the company.