

Center for Public Health Law & Policy

Table – Litigation Regarding CMS Drug Pricing Negotiation Authority

JAMES G. HODGE, JR., JD, LLM Director

ERICA N. WHITE, JD Research Scholar MARY SAXON Senior Legal Researcher

September 18, 2023

The <u>Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022</u>, signed into law on August 16, 2022, contains numerous provisions aiming to lower the cost of select prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries and the federal government. IRA authorizes the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program (DPNP), which requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to negotiate drug prices with manufacturers for certain Medicare Part D drugs over years ahead. 42 U.S.C.A. § 1320f. On August 29, 2023, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the <u>first 10 drugs</u> chosen for negotiation representing the "top 10" eligible Part D drugs with the highest Medicare expenditures over the prior year. Manufacturers of these drugs must sign an agreement to negotiate by October 1, 2023, with negotiations leading to CMS' posted drug prices by September 1, 2024. Negotiated prices will take effect on January 1, 2026.²

Prior to CMS' selection, several drug manufacturers (and others) filed lawsuits questioning the constitutionality of IRA provisions. Manufacturers claim standing to sue based on their drug's likely status as a "top 10" drug. Some of the initially-filed suits (e.g., Astellas Pharma claim) have been withdrawn. This Table summarizes *ongoing litigation* surrounding IRA's drug negotiation provisions as per the following information in **Columns**:

- I. chronologically lists case names and numbers, hyperlinks to the complaint (where available), and **date** filed;
- II. identifies the court where the complaint was filed;
- III. provides brief case status updates;
- IV. describes factual angles of the suits (drugs selected via CMS' 8/29 DPNP announcement are highlighted); and
- V. delineates primary constitutional arguments raised in each case by each party.

I. Case & Date	II. Court	III. Status	IV. Factual Angle	V. Constitutional Arguments
Merck v.	U.S. District	Defendant's	Plaintiffs:	Plaintiffs:
Becerra et al.,	Court for the	Response to	Allege that CMS DPNP is coercive and does	First Amendment -
No. 1:23-CV-	District of	Plaintiff's	not constitute genuine negotiations. Standing	Compelled Speech
01615	Columbia	Motion for	is based on the manufacturing of Januvia,	Fifth Amendment - Takings
		Summary	Janumet, and Keytruda.	Clause
June 6, 2023		Judgment		
		filed on	Defendants:	Defendants:
		9/11/23	Argue that Takings Clause and Compelled	Standing
			Speech arguments fail because participation in	Ripeness
			Medicare and DPNP is voluntary and no	First Amendment- Compelled
			physical or regulatory taking has occurred.	Speech
				Fifth Amendment- Takings
				Clause
				Unconstitutional Conditions
				Doctrine
Dayton Area	U.S. District	Defendants'	Plaintiffs:	Plaintiffs:
Chamber of	Court for the	Reply in	Plaintiffs claim associational standing because	First Amendment -
Commerce et al.	Southern	Support of	chambers of commerce involve drug	Compelled Speech
v. Becerra et al.,	District of	their	companies that are subject to IRA provisions.	Fifth Amendment –
No. 3:23-cv-	Ohio Western	Motion to	One of the chambers' members manufactures	Due Process Clause
00156	Division	Dismiss	Imbruvica.	Eighth Amendment -
		filed 9/8/23		Excessive Fines Clause
June 9, 2023				Separation of Powers -
ŕ				Nondelegation Doctrine
				Exceeding Congressional
				Authority
				Defendants:
				Standing
				S
				Ripeness

I. Case & Date	II. Court	III. Status	IV. Factual Angle	V. Constitutional Arguments
Bristol-Myers	U.S. District	Motion for	Plaintiffs:	Plaintiffs:
Squibb Co. v.	Court for the	Summary	Alleges that DPNP results in a scheme where	First Amendment -
Becerra et al.,	District of	Judgment	HHS dictates a price that compels drug	Compelled Speech
No. 3:23-cv-	New Jersey	filed on	companies to sell their most lucrative and	Fifth Amendment –
03335	Trenton	8/16/23	innovative drugs or face steep penalties.	Takings Clause
	Vicinage		Standing is based on the manufacturing of	Unconstitutional Conditions
June 16, 2023	_		Opdivo and Eliquis.	Doctrine
Nat'l Infusion	U.S. District	Motion to	Plaintiffs:	Plaintiffs:
Ctr. Ass'n et al.	Court for the	Dismiss	Alleges that DPNP does not involve genuine	Fifth Amendment –
v. Becerra et al.,	Western	filed on	negotiation and is insulated from	Due Process Clause
No: 23-cv-	District of	8/28/2023	accountability through failing to require	Eighth Amendment -
00707	Texas Austin		notice-and-comment rulemaking and limiting	Excessive Fines Clause
	Division		the information that may be disclosed	Separation of Powers -
June 21, 2023			regarding negotiations. Standing is based on	Nondelegation Doctrine
			the following: Infusion Association members	
			receive reimbursement revenue from drugs	Defendants :
			and treatments likely included in Program.	Lack of Subject Matter
			Global Colon Cancer Association members	Jurisdiction
			rely on cancer drugs subject to negotiation.	Standing
			PhRMA members manufacture drugs selected	Venue
			for negotiation such as Eliquis, Xarelto,	
			Januvia, Jardiance, Imbruvica, Novolog and	
			Enbrel.	
<u>Janssen</u>	U.S. District	Plaintiff's	Alleges that DPNP is a mandated,	Plaintiffs:
Pharmaceuticals,	Court for the	Motion for	unconstitutional price control (and not a	First Amendment -
Inc. v. Becerra	District of	Summary	legitimate negotiation). Standing is based on	Compelled Speech
et al., No: 23-cv-	New Jersey	Judgment	the manufacturing of Xarelto.	Fifth Amendment –
03818	Trenton	filed on		Takings Clause
T 1 10 2022	Vicinage	8/16/23		Unconstitutional Conditions
July 18, 2023	II G D'		77. 1. 160	Doctrine
Boehringer	U.S. District	Complaint	Plaintiffs:	Plaintiffs:
<u>Ingelheim</u>	Court for the	filed		

I. Case & Date	II. Court	III. Status	IV. Factual Angle	V. Constitutional Arguments
Pharmaceuticals,	District of		Alleges that DPNP (1) fundamentally alters	First Amendment -
Inc. v. U.S.	Connecticut		the U.S. health care market and that	Compelled Speech
HHS et al., No.			manufacturers have no genuine choice in	Fifth Amendment – Due
3:23-cv-01103			negotiating; and (2) presents a conflict of	Process & Takings Clauses
			interest between CMS's dual role as price-	Eighth Amendment -
August 18, 2023			setting entity and payor. Standing is based on	Excessive Fines
			the manufacturing of Jardiance.	Separation of Powers
				Unconstitutional Conditions
				Doctrine
<u>AstraZeneca</u>	U.S. District	Complaint	Plaintiffs:	Plaintiffs:
Pharmaceuticals	Court for the	filed	Alleges the IRA undermines the Orphan Drug	Fifth Amendment -
LP v. Becerra et	District of		Act by reducing incentives for development of	Due Process Clause
<u>al</u> ., 1:23-cv-	Delaware		new drugs and that the definitions of	
00931			"Qualifying Single Source Drug" and "Bona	
			Fide Marketing" are arbitrary and capricious	
August 25, 2023			under the Administrative Procedures Act.	
			Standing is based on the manufacturing of	
			Lynparza, Soliris, Farxiga, and Calquence.	
<u>Novartis</u>	U.S. District	Complaint	Plaintiffs:	Plaintiffs:
Pharmaceuticals	Court for the	filed	Alleges that the IRA is a "forced-sales regime"	First Amendment –
Corp. v. Becerra	District of		that harms innovation and deprives	Compelled Speech
et al., 2:23-cv-	New Jersey		manufacturers of market price for their	Fifth Amendment – Takings
14221			"lifechanging" drugs. Standing is based on the	Eighth Amendment –
			manufacturing of: Entresto.	Excessive Fines
September 1,				Unconstitutional Conditions
2023				Doctrine

Source: Select court documents were accessed through <u>Court Listener</u>.

¹ CMS, Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program: Revised Guidance, Implementation of Sections 1191-1198 of the Social Security Act for Initial Price Applicability Year 2026 (June 30, 2023), chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.cms.gov/files/document/revised-medicare-drugprice-negotiation-program-guidance-june-2023.pdf. ² 42 U.S.C. §§ 1320f(b), (d), 1320f-2(a), 1320f-3(b).