

Stakeholders Weigh In on Sovaldi and the National Coalition on Health Care's Campaign for Sustainable Rx Pricing

"Escalating specialty drug prices mean increased premiums and cost sharing for everyone, regardless of whether they are taking one themselves. The debate surrounding the introduction of Sovaldi is just one part of this much larger issue. We applaud NCHC for taking on this issue through its new Campaign for Sustainable Drug Pricing."

- *Debra Whitman*
Executive Vice President for Strategy, Policy and International Affairs
AARP
*Email JERosenblum@aarp.org with further questions

"One sole source drug with an exorbitant price can impose grave burdens on patients, payers and the stability of benefits overall. We must work together to find solutions."

- *Mark Merritt*
President and CEO
Pharmaceutical Care Management Association (PCMA)
*Email ccote@pcmanet.org with further questions

"The pricing of new, specialty drugs poses serious challenges to those who pay for health care, and Sovaldi is just the first of many similar drugs that are in the pipeline. Stakeholders will need to work together and develop new approaches for drug approvals, treatment indications, and financing to ensure that all patients who need these emerging treatments can afford and benefit from them."

- *David Lansky, Ph.D.*
Chief Executive Officer
Pacific Business Group on Health
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"Our health care system cannot sustain these continued escalating drug prices. Stakeholders across the health care system need to work together to solve this problem – and pharmaceutical companies are going to have to come to the table and be part of the solution."

- *Jack Lewin, MD*
President and CEO
Cardiovascular Research Foundation;
Chairman of the Board
National Coalition on Health Care
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"The high cost of life saving drugs – medications that at the same time may contain epidemics – is a major public health challenge. Not only are sick people being priced out of the market, but the nation's ability to stop the spread of infectious diseases is impeded. We need to find a better way to balance the public's needs while maintaining incentives for private investment in drug development."

- *Jeffrey Levi, Ph.D.*
Executive Director
Trust for America's Health
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"Even a new break-through treatment won't help patients if they can't afford it. At thousands of dollars per prescription, some specialty drugs like Sovaldi are excessively and unreasonably priced."

- *Wells Wilkinson*
Staff Attorney
Community Catalyst
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