



## **Statement Regarding National Pharmacare Interim Report Announcement**

Toronto, March 6, 2019 - The [Best Medicines Coalition](#) (BMC), a national alliance of 27 patient organizations, welcomes the Advisory Council on the Implementation of National Pharmacare's Interim Report, and is in full agreement that the current system is inadequate to meet the needs of Canadians.

BMC has called for significant reforms to address inequities and inadequacies that lead to compromised care and poor outcomes at great cost to individuals and families. All patients, without exception, must be able to obtain medically-necessary medications. Importantly, reform must deliver coverage for a comprehensive range of drugs, including those considered curative or breakthrough, along with highly specialized treatments such as those for rare diseases.

The coalition and its members were active participants in the Advisory Council's consultation process. [The coalition's submission called for a phased approach to reform](#), urging leaders to prioritize the most critical disparities and inequities in the system.

[John Adams](#), BMC's Chair, is available for interviews. Based in Toronto, John is a long-time patient advocate. His views are informed by his leadership of the coalition and by personal experiences. He also has specific expertise and perspectives regarding policies related to the treatment of rare diseases.

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### **About the Best Medicines Coalition**

The Best Medicines Coalition is a national alliance of patient organizations with a shared goal of equitable and consistent access for all Canadians to safe and effective medicines that improve patient outcomes. The BMC's areas of interest include drug approval, assessment and reimbursement, as well as patient safety and supply issues. As an important aspect of its work, the BMC strives to ensure that Canadian patients have a voice and are meaningful participants in health policy development, specifically regarding pharmaceutical care.

### **To arrange an interview, please contact:**

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