

# CURED

Campaign Urging Research for Eosinophilic Disease

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Campaign Urging Research for Eosinophilic Disease (CURED), strongly supports legislation which mandates consistent coverage and reimbursement for Medical Foods or formulas when prescribed by a physician for specific chronic medical conditions in children and adults. "Medical Food" is a food which is formulated to be consumed or administered orally or through a feeding tube under the supervision of a physician and which is intended for the specific dietary management of a disease or condition for which distinctive nutritional requirements, based on recognized scientific principles, are established by medical evaluation.

As a patient advocacy group supporting those living with eosinophil associated Gastrointestinal disease such as eosinophilic esophagitis, gastritis, gastroenteritis and colitis (collectively known as "EGIDs") we recognize the importance of specialized formulas in the treatment of a wide range of medical conditions. EGIDs affect approximately 1 per 900 individuals in the United States. For certain individuals with EGIDs, specialized elemental formulas are the primary or sole treatment for the disorder. For many, proper nutritional therapy has been established as being critical part of treatment, and may be more important than prescription medications, such as those with eosinophilic esophagitis. Medical Foods are prescribed as a medical therapy and therefore should be covered as would any other medication, procedure or device. Health insurance policy that is delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, extended or modified in a particular state by any health care insurer and that provides coverage for a child or adult should optimally provide coverage of Medical Foods for physician prescribed dietary use as an accepted medical benefit.

On behalf of patients living with EGIDs, CURED supports the Medical Food Bill, as it provides essential coverage for specialized formula as recommended by physicians as a treatment of chronic medical conditions.

Sincerely,

Ellyn Kodroff  
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CURED Board Member  
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