What is the Institute for Clinical Economic Review (ICER)? And What is It NOT? Dispelling the Myths...

What IS ICER?

- ICER IS an independent organization
- ICER’s assessments ARE used by private payers, including Medicare Advantage plans, some Medicaid programs, and the VA to inform formulary development and utilization management
- ICER DOES assess new treatments upon being approved by the FDA despite lack of real-world evidence of value and clinical benefit
- ICER’s value assessment reports DO use “quality-adjusted life years” or QALYs and a similar metric called the equal value of life year gained (evLYG) to determine whether a drug is cost-effective. Both have implications for discrimination
- ICER issues a report that assesses drug price increases using a subjective methodology revised each year that allows ICER to determine which studies and information will be used to determine whether increases are “supported”

What is ICER NOT?

- ICER is NOT a federal government agency and is NOT affiliated with the FDA
- ICER does NOT have any authority to approve or deny drug access
- ICER’s reports are NOT designed to support patient and provider shared decision-making
- ICER’s model for evaluating “cost effectiveness” is NOT transparent or able to be replicated
- ICER generally does NOT include patients with the disease or providers who specialize in treating the disease in the voting process defining value of treatment for the disease being studied
- ICER does NOT consider whether the evidence base is sufficient to support a value assessment
- ICER is NOT referenced in state or federal laws and is not accountable to state and federal lawmakers for their methods