

Nebraska CardiovascularPulmonary Rehabilitation Network representatives attended the AACVPR sponsored Day on the Hill in Washington D.C. on March 21-March23, 2017.

The two attendees were Karen Hardy, RN, CardioPulmonary Rehabilitation Nurse Manager from CHI Health, Metro-Omaha and Carey Krepel, RRT, Pulmonary Rehabilitation Coordinator from CHI Health Plainview Hospital in Plainview, Nebraska.

We were able to have visits with all of Nebraska's members and/or their aides

Representative Adrian Smith, Representative Deb Fischer, and Representative Don Bacon. Senator Ben Sasse and Senator Deb Fischer.

Senator Sasse was the only Senator we were able to meet with personally for a brief time but all aides were very interested in our message and support request. We actually had a unique opportunity to provide background information for Senator Bacon's aide following by a brief discussion and question/answer period with him regarding changes to the current Affordable Care Act hearings that were currently being held during our visit.

We were also very encouraged and know that the requests for support and background information our organization provides is successful as Senator Fortenberry has already signed on to the bill.

The visits were quite positive despite the severe weather that had arrived during the visit. Our pre-scheduled appointments required readjustments due to the delay of Hill office openings on Tuesday March 22, 2015. All the aides were quite willing to make these adjusted times and were highly receptive of our agenda principles which involved our request of support for H.R. 1155 (Now H.R.3355) and S.488 regarding proposed changes to "direct supervision" of Cardiac Rehabilitation. We also discussed the need for a lead sponsor and support for changing the status of Section 603 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 mandating the limitation of reimbursement to new or relocation of cardiopulmonary rehabilitation services farther then 250 yards from a hospital.

Respectfully submitted:

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