

June 29, 2020

**PBGH ISSUES STATEMENT ON GILEAD ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE PRICE OF REMDESIVIR**

The Pacific Business Group on Health has serious concerns with the price that Gilead has announced for **remdesivir**, a drug that reduces COVID-19 patients' recovery time. Gilead stated that it would charge \$520 per dose, or \$3,120 for a typical patient with commercial insurance. This price is 17% higher than the benefits it provides, based on an objective analysis by the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER). Furthermore, the price does not take into account the fact that the drug's development was largely supported by taxpayer-funded research. It is another unfortunate example of drug manufacturers taking advantage of the lack of competition to set prices at whatever level they want. It's also a worrisome indicator that they might exploit the COVID-19 pandemic to increase their profits at the expense of patients. The bottom line is that this adds to the financial burden on employers and their employees and families, many of whom are already struggling from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.