



California Biotechnology: Industry Supports **PATIENTS** in **NEED**

California's biotech companies are on the cutting edge of the next wave of medicines and therapies that will revolutionize health care. In fact, biotechnology holds the promise of curing diseases that were once thought untreatable.

While a significant number of biotech therapies are covered by health insurance, what happens to those people who are uninsured? For those coping with a serious health condition, the last thing they should have to think about is: **How am I going to pay for this?** Life-saving treatments should be available to all who need them.

- California's biotechnology industry is committed to providing quality care and products to all patients, and has initiated patient assistance programs to help those who are uninsured or lack adequate insurance to access life-saving medications.
- In 2006, California biotechnology companies donated more than \$883 million in products to patients and agencies throughout the United States.
- Nearly every California biotech company with a product on the market has a patient assistance program. Companies often provide more assistance than the State of California. These assistance programs give patients access to advanced treatments that private insurance or Medi-Cal often won't cover—even when they are FDA-approved.
- Some companies provide co-pay assistance or cost-effective payment options, while others form foundations and endowments to provide free medicine to the uninsured.
- Millions of people in the United States have benefited from patient assistance programs, but millions more could qualify for low-cost medicines, but may not know such programs exist.

for more information, please visit www.pparx.com or call 1-888-4PPA-NOW

California Biotechnology: Industry Supports Patients in Need



Partnership for Prescription Assistance

While many California biotech companies offer their own patient assistance programs, nearly all of them participate in the national "Partnership for Prescription Assistance" (PPA) program and have access to information on their corporate or product website.

The PPA brings together America's biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, physicians, other health care providers, patient advocacy organizations and community groups to help patients get access to the medicines they need through more than 475 patient assistance programs, including more than 180 programs offered by pharmaceutical companies.

More than 2,500 brand-name and generic prescription medicines are available through participating patient assistance programs. In addition, the PPA provides information on nearly 10,000 free health care clinics in communities across America.

Each patient assistance program has its own eligibility criteria. Many programs provide prescription assistance for Medicare beneficiaries who do not have full prescription drug benefits. There are even assistance programs for people with existing prescription medication coverage. Patients need only to contact the PPA through the website www.pparx.com or the toll-free number **1-888-4PPA-NOW** to find out if they qualify for prescription assistance.

Online Patient Assistance Programs:

amgen.com/patients/assistance.html

amylin.com/products/reimbursement.cfm

kogenate.com/

gene.com/gene/products/access/index.html

rocheusa.com/programs/patientassist.asp

pharma.us.novartis.com/novartis/pap/pap.jsp

pparx.org/Intro.php

rxhelpforca.org

access2wellness.org

PatientAssistanceNow.com