

# Plasma Therapies

Moderator: Mississippi Representative Omeria Scott,  
Women In Government State Director

Lynn Albizo, JD, Vice President of Public Policy,  
Immune Deficiency Foundation



*#AccessToHealthCare*

# **THE NEED FOR PLASMA THERAPIES**

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Lynn Albizo, JD

V.P. of Public Policy



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a silver compass. The compass face is green with white markings for cardinal and intercardinal directions (N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW). The hand is positioned palm-up, and the background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with a horizon line.

# MISSION STATEMENT

The Immune Deficiency Foundation improves the diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life of people affected by primary immunodeficiency through fostering a community empowered by **advocacy**, education, and research.

# PRIMARY IMMUNODEFICIENCIES (PIs)

- PIs include more than 450 types of rare, chronic disorders in which the body's immune system functions improperly because of genetic or intrinsic defects.
- PIs can cause infection, cancer, allergy, and autoimmunity. Frequent, persistent infections can lead to debilitating illnesses, organ damage, and even death.
- According to the NIH there are approximately 500,000 individuals in the U.S. with a PI.
- More than half of those with PI have an antibody deficiency meaning they do not make sufficient antibodies to fight infection. Standard treatment for these types of PI involves providing antibodies through regular immunoglobulin (Ig) replacement therapy.
- Other treatments include antibiotics, antivirals, and targeted therapies for rare PI's including, bone marrow transplants, gene therapy and enzyme therapies. .

# PLASMA DERIVED IMMUNOGLOBULIN THERAPY

- Ig is derived from donated human plasma, a blood product, and is administered either intravenously (IVIG) or subcutaneously (SCIG)
- Approximately 130 plasma donations are needed produce enough immunoglobulin (Ig) to treat a single adult with PI for one year.
- Ig therapy is developed into a product by pooling together the antibodies collected from multiple plasma donations which after infused, will allow the body to fight infections.
- Donations from diverse populations, help to create a rich mix of antibodies creating a more protective product, benefiting PI patients.

# PLASMA DONATION EFFORTS

Prioritizing efforts and policies to ensure adequate plasma supply

- [Plasma Hero Campaign](#)
- State advocacy to remove barriers to plasma donation center operations
- PI Awareness Ambassadors –Community members share their experience with immunoglobulin therapy to enhance plasma donations



# STATE ADVOCACY

- Ensuring the Availability of Plasma through legislation addressing burdensome plasma center restrictions
- Co-pay Accumulator Legislation
- Rare Disease Advisory Councils
- Gaps in Medicaid Coverage



# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

## **Copay Accumulators**

- Legislation passed in Texas, Colorado, and the District of Columbia

## **Rare Disease Advisory Councils**

- Legislation signed into law in Maryland

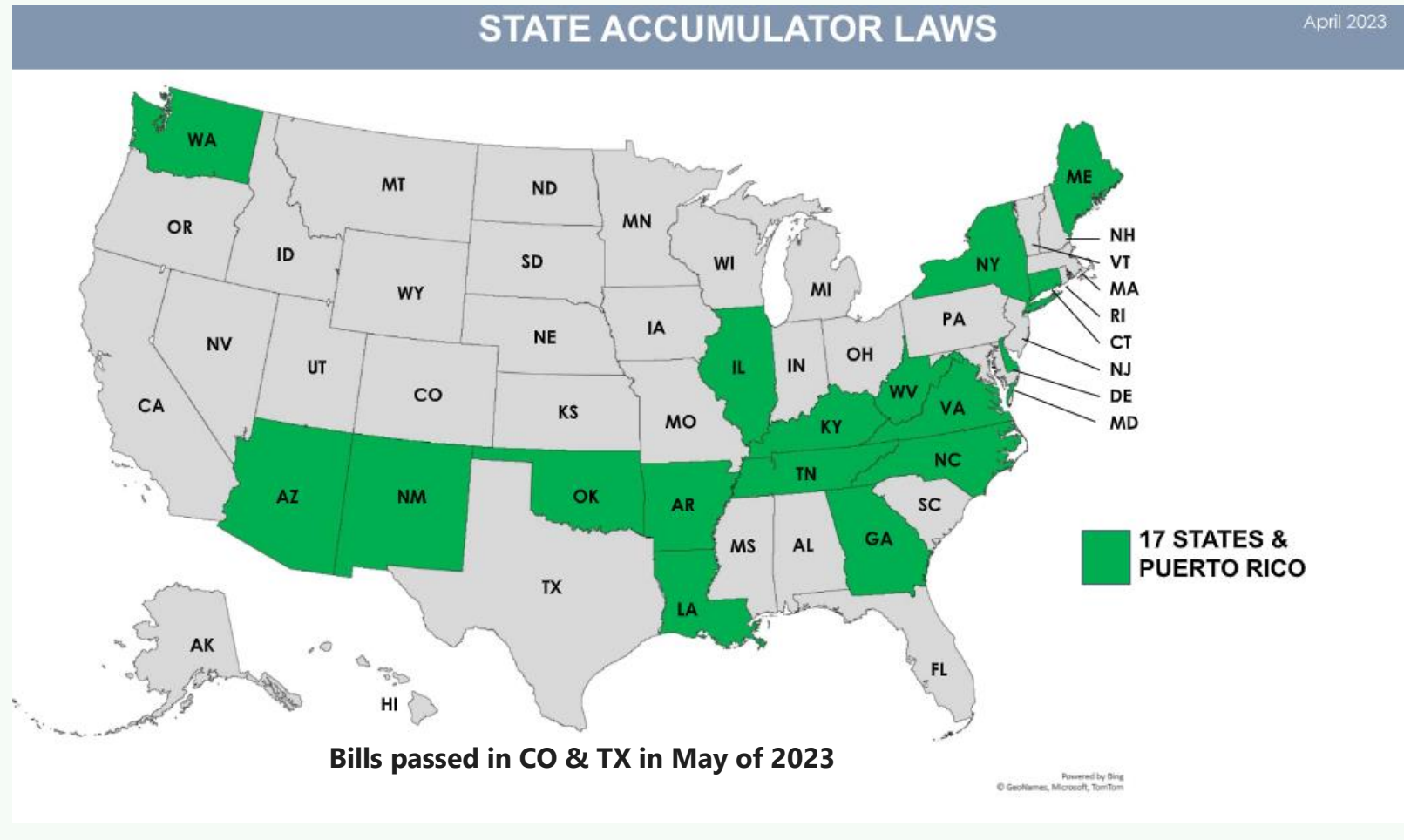
## **Plasma Access**

- Legislation expected to be passed in Connecticut that will promote plasma centers opening in the state



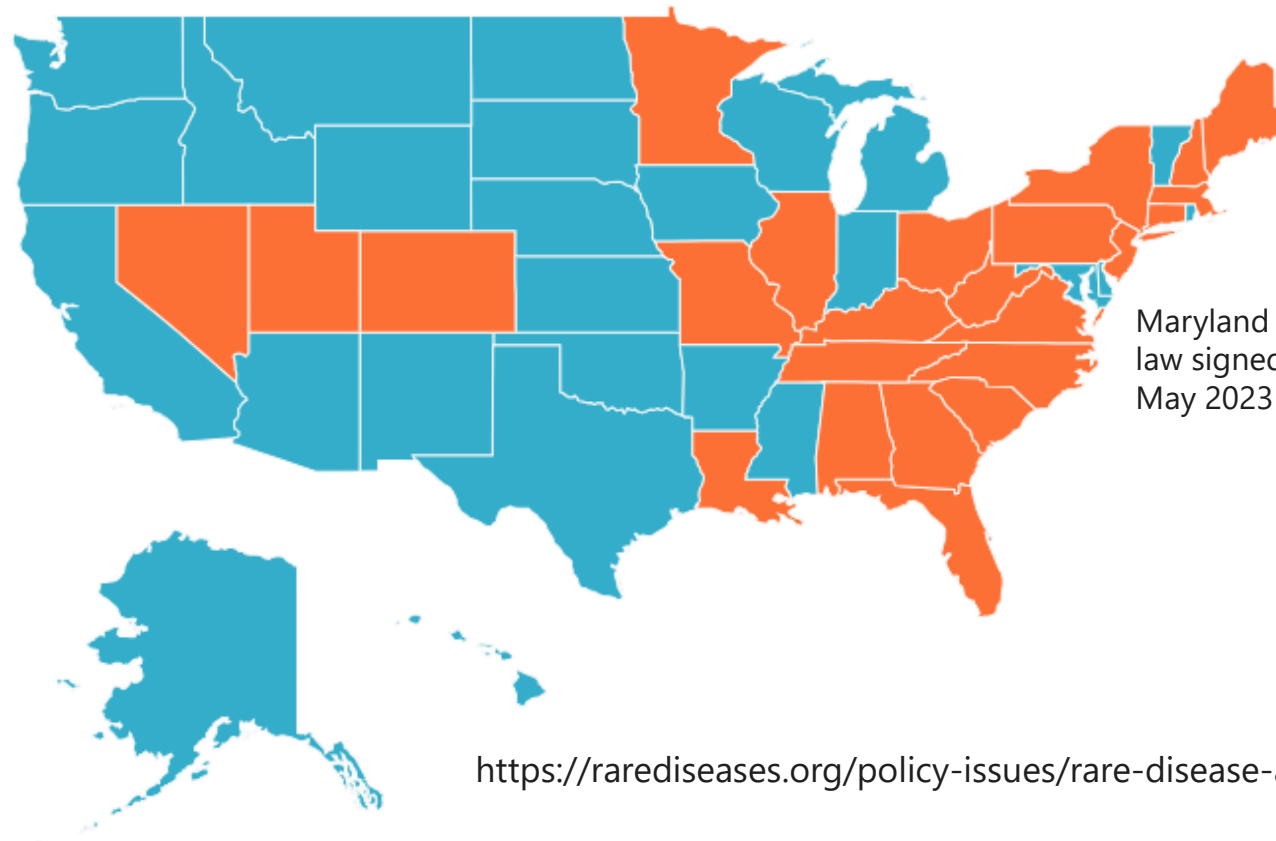


# State Copay Accumulator Legislation



# Rare Disease Advisory Councils

■ State has an RDAC ■ State does not have an RDAC



<https://rarediseases.org/policy-issues/rare-disease-advisory-councils/>