



## Talking Points & Legislative Asks for In-District Meetings Summer 2016

### House Meetings

#### The OPEN ACT

- Please Co-Sponsor the OPEN ACT (HR 971)
- The bipartisan legislation is co-authored by Representatives Bilirakis (R-FL) and Butterfield (D-NC) along with 19 other House Members and supported by over 160 national patient organizations
- The OPEN ACT could double the number of therapies available to 30 million rare disease patients, most of whom have no treatment options

#### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures

- In July 2015, the House took a historic step forward by passing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act, which contains billions in new funding for NIH, new funding for the FDA, and the OPEN ACT
- But these critical changes won't happen unless the Senate acts!
- Please urge your Senate colleagues to bring 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures to a floor vote – time is running out! A delay in legislation will result in delays in treatment

#### NIH & FDA Appropriations

- The NIH and FDA are vital agencies in the fight against rare disease, but both are substantially underfunded
- Please support robust and mandatory funding for the agencies – their work is vital in bringing life-saving therapies to patients



## Senate Meetings

### The OPEN ACT

- Please Co-Sponsor the OPEN ACT (S 1421)
- The bipartisan legislation is co-authored by Sens. Hatch (R-UT) and Klobuchar (D-MN) with co-sponsorship from five additional Senators and passed the House in July 2015 as part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act
- The OPEN ACT could double the number of therapies available to 30 million rare disease patients, most of whom have no treatment options

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures

- In July 2015, the House passed the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act, which contains billions in new funding for NIH, new funding for the FDA, and the OPEN ACT
- Please bring 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures to a floor vote immediately – time is running out! A delay in legislation will result in delays in treatment and patients cannot wait

### NIH & FDA Appropriations

- The NIH and FDA are vital agencies in the fight against rare disease, but both are substantially underfunded
- Please support robust and mandatory funding for the agencies – their work is vital in bringing life-saving therapies to patients