



National Hispanic Medical Association

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Nereida Correa, MD, MPH**

CHAIRWOMAN

Associate Clinical Professor of Obstetrics  
Gynecology & Women's Health  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
CEO, Eastchester Medical Associates, PC  
Bronx, NY

**Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, FACP**

PRESIDENT & CEO

National Hispanic Medical Association  
Washington, DC

**Gilbert Burgos, MD, MPH**

CHAIRMAN-ELECT

Executive Director of Medical Affairs  
Elderplan / Homefirst  
Brooklyn, NY

**Diana Ramos, MD, MPH, FACCQ**

SECRETARY

Assistant Clinical Professor  
Keck School of Medicine of USC  
Los Angeles, CA

**Bert Johansson, MD, PhD**

TREASURER

Pediatric Critical Care  
El Paso Children's Hospital  
El Paso, TX

**Judith Flores, MD, FAAP, CHQM**

IMMEDIATE PAST-CHAIR

Department of Ambulatory Care  
Coney Island Hospital  
Brooklyn, NY

**Maria Carrasco, MD, MPH**

Regional Physician Lead on Cultural Competence  
Kaiser Permanente  
Montebello, CA

**Minerva Campos, MD, MPH**

Washington, DC

**Carlos Corral, MD, FACS**

Director

El Paso Cardiac Vascular & Thoracic Surgeons P.A.  
El Paso, TX

**Ricardo Correa, MD**

Director, Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism  
University of Arizona College of Medicine  
Phoenix, AZ

**Francisco Fernandez, MD**

Director, Population Health and Community  
Engagement, Institute of Neurosciences  
Professor of Psychiatry University of Texas  
Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine  
Edinburg, TX

**Maria M. Garcia, MD, MPH, FACP**

Professor of Medicine

University of Massachusetts Medical School  
UMass Memorial Medical Center  
Boston, MA

**Pilar Guerrero, MD, FACP**

Assistant Professor

Rush Medical College  
Chicago, IL

**Elizabeth Lee-Rey, MD, MPH**

Partner

Eastchester Medical Associates, PC  
Bronx, NY

**Sylvia P. Preciado, MD**

Internist

Huntington Hospital  
Pasadena, CA

**Claudia H. Zamora, MPA**

Founder & CEO, Zamora Consulting Group  
Washington, DC

**Pamela Montano Arteaga, MD**

Chairwoman, Council of Young Physicians  
New York, NY

**Keila Muñiz, MD**

Chairwoman, Council of Residents  
Baltimore, MD

**Donald Rodriguez**

President, Latino Medical Student Association  
Chicago, IL

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Richard H. Carmona, MD, MPH, FACS**

17<sup>th</sup> U.S. Surgeon General (2002-2006)

Chief of Health Innovation, Canyon Ranch  
Distinguished Professor,  
Zuckerman College of Public Health,  
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

**Henry Cisneros**

Chairman, CityView, San Antonio, TX

**Ronald Estrada**

Vice President, National Community Empowerment,  
Univision, Washington, DC

**Linda Griego**

President & CEO, Griego Enterprises, Inc.  
Los Angeles, CA

**Paloma Hernandez, MPH, MS**

President & CEO, Urban Health Plan, Inc.  
Bronx, NY

**Yasmine Winkler, MBA**

Chicago, IL

June 15, 2020

The Honorable Chris Holden  
California State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA94249

RE: Support for AB 2983, Pharmacies: automatic refills

Dear Assembly Member Holden:

On behalf of the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), a nonprofit representing over 50,000 physicians who are committed to improving the health of Hispanics and other underserved population, we strongly support AB 2983, Pharmacies: automatic refills.

AB 2893 would strengthen regulations around automatic refills for prescription medication. This bill is an important move, as it will help keep patients safer with auto refills and prescriptions, especially for those who are on many medications and can be confused by multiple prescriptions and dosages. It also reduces abuse of the automatic refill requests for controlled substances and to prevent pharmacies from requesting for an excess number of refills from the original prescription.

NHMA supports AB 2893 because it is a common-sense bill that ensures that the practice of automatic refills is not driven by economic incentive but rather on the well-being of the patient.

If you have any questions, please contact Ben Melano, Government Relations Officer, at [bmelano@nhmamd.org](mailto:bmelano@nhmamd.org) or at (202) 628-5895.

Sincerely,

Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, FACP  
President & CEO  
National Hispanic Medical Association