



Charleston County Medical Society  
198 Rutledge Ave, Suite 7, Charleston, SC 29403  
Tel:843-577-3613 - Fax:843-722-2846  
[www.CharlestonMedicalSociety.org](http://www.CharlestonMedicalSociety.org)

The Honorable Richard J Leon  
The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia  
333 Constitution Avenue N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20001

Marcelo Hochman, MD  
President

Andrew McMarlin, DO  
Vice-President

Marta T. Hampton, MD  
Secretary-Treasurer

Dana Holladay  
Administrator

Dear Judge Leon,

May this letter serve to support your concerns about the proposed merger between CVS Health and Aetna Inc. and to encourage denial of its consummation. CVS, one of the three largest middlemen in the pharmacy business, has already been accused by watch-groups, lawmakers and large employers of pocketing many of the discounts they negotiate with pharmaceutical companies rather than passing them on to patients.

Incorporation of this Pharmacy Benefit Manager into the internal structure of the merged company would further obfuscate transparency for their largest revenue stream (read as “cost to patient”). The proposed tie-up creates an entity that would own the entire chain from the prescription written in the company-owned walk-in clinic by the company employed “medical provider” to the filling of that prescription in the on-site pharmacy to the health plan that pays for that drug and service.

There is no reason to believe the new entity would start passing on theoretical savings to customers in the face of less competition. We need more — not fewer — choices in health care.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marcelo Hochman MD*

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