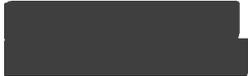


12-1-2018

To: Peter Mucchetti, Chief
Healthcare and Consumer Products Section, Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
450 Fifth Street NW, Suite 4100
Washington, DC 20530

From: Bruce McAnally, RPh



Greetings from Texas!

I do not think the proposed merger of Aetna and CVS is a good thing for this country. To begin with, the required Aetna "spin off" of its Medicare Part D business to Wellcare is really just a sham since Wellcare utilizes CVS to administer the pharmacy portion of Wellcare's business.

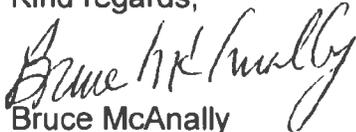
Meanwhile, CVS continues with its spread pricing policies to increase its profits. CVS has reduced payments to pharmacies, and often pays below-cost reimbursements to non-CVS pharmacies over the past couple of years – a trend which is increasing in frequency.

There have been numerous reporting and contract violations by CVS resulting in fines paid by CVS, but it has not stopped their aggressive practices of customer steering, bullying and retaliation and other anticompetitive tactics.

All these actions are not good for our country or the consumer as it increases the cost of pharmacy care and reduces the freedom of choice for patients. The continued consolidation of insurance carriers with health care providers opens the door for further conflicts of interest. These mergers and their resulting policies are particularly devastating to independent pharmacies across the country while lining the pockets of CVS.

Please deny this merger.

Kind regards,


Bruce McAnally