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April 27, 2020

Werner Baumann  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bayer  
Bayer AG  
Leverkusen, Germany 51368

Dear Mr. Baumann,

I write on behalf of Public Citizen, a consumer advocacy organization based in Washington, DC with more than 500,000 members and supporters. Our major areas of focus include pharmaceutical safety, efficacy and access, among others.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented hardship. The spread of the virus has resulted in an economic fallout that rivals the Great Depression. More than 26 million Americans have lost their jobs since mid-March. With health insurance for many Americans tied to their employment, millions likely have lost coverage. Three in ten Americans were already rationing their medicine due to cost before the pandemic. Now, many more are vulnerable.

Increasing the price of existing drugs contributes nothing to innovation. Yet according to the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review, you increased the list price of your top-selling drug Mirena/Skyla/Kyleena (levonorgestrel) between 2016 to 2018 by 5.9%.<sup>1</sup>

At a time when Americans are increasingly uncertain of how they will afford their daily expenses, they should not have to worry about higher medicine prices. The very least you can do is stop increasing their burden. We ask that you freeze list prices immediately, across your product portfolio, for the duration of the pandemic.

Will you commit to not increasing the prices of your medicines?

Sincerely,

Peter Maybarduk  
Access to Medicines Director  
Public Citizen  
(202) 588-7755; [pmaybarduk@citizen.org](mailto:pmaybarduk@citizen.org)

<sup>1</sup>Institute for Clinical and Economic Review, Unsupported Price Increase Assessment: Final Assessment and Report, p. 4 (Oct. 8 2019), available at [https://icer-review.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/ICER\\_UPI\\_Final\\_Report\\_and\\_Assessment\\_110619.pdf](https://icer-review.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/ICER_UPI_Final_Report_and_Assessment_110619.pdf)