



Conquering IC.
Changing Lives.

Interstitial Cystitis Association

Phone Script

My name is _____ and I live in _____.

I am an advocate with the Interstitial Cystitis Association (ICA). The ICA advocates for research funding, raises interstitial cystitis (IC) awareness, and provides education to ensure early diagnosis and optimal care for people affected by IC, a disease that has had an enormous effect on me and my family. IC is a chronic condition consisting of recurring pain, urinary frequency, and urinary urgency. IC can affect anyone - men, women, and children of any race and ethnicity. The condition affects 3 to 8 million women and 1 to 4 million men in the U.S. That is 1 out of 77 citizens living with IC in the United States. 88% of every dollar received by ICA goes into direct services, benefiting IC/BPS patients and working towards fulfilling the organization's mission.

{My personal experience has been.....}

I am calling today to ask for _____ (Name of Senator or Representative)'s help. I realize the country is dealing with the COVID-19 outbreak and we appreciate your efforts with this critical issue. However, we also realize that your work on other important issues continues and we need your help. I'd like to review a couple of bills to bring to your attention, and I will follow up with an email request your support for the following:

- Provide \$1,100,000 for the IC Education and Awareness Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC).
- Provide the National Institutes of Health (NIH) with at least \$44.7 billion in FY 2021.
- Continue to include "interstitial cystitis" as a condition eligible for study through the Department of Defense Peer-Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP) for FY 2021.
- Maintain access to chronic pain care medication and protect the patient/doctor relationship with regards to prescriptions. Chronic pain patients depend on important medications to cope with their pain.

Do you have any questions about IC or my request for help? Please consider me a resource for you and your office about any IC/BPS health related and patient issues.