



The Voice of Accountable Physician Groups

February 13, 2015

Dear Members of the 114th Congress,

We write to encourage you to take action to protect and strengthen the Medicare Advantage program and the coordinated care delivery model it represents.

We know that the coordinated care that is available through the Medicare Advantage program represents a better path forward for the healthcare delivery system. In a coordinated system, a care delivery team is focused on the patient's total healthcare needs. The coordinated care model focuses on primary care, emphasizes wellness and disease prevention, and works to ensure that patients receive the right care at the most appropriate setting.

Today, this coordinated model is rapidly spreading. A growing number of providers, employers, and payers are working together to ensure that all patients have access to high-value healthcare. We are working together to build a better delivery system, one that optimizes the patient's healthcare experience, rather than just providing a high volume of services.

We believe one of the best examples of a coordinated delivery model exists within Medicare Advantage. Medicare Advantage plans have shown their ability to provide a better value for patients, which is why seniors are gravitating to the program. Today, one-third of Medicare beneficiaries, or about 16 million seniors, have selected a Medicare Advantage plan. A substantial body of evidence has shown how Medicare Advantage can produce provide better outcomes for patients, better rates of preventive services, and lower rates of preventable hospital admissions.

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Despite all of its success, the Medicare Advantage program has faced significant legislative and regulatory funding cuts in recent years. We believe that additional cuts of this nature could place the program, and the coordinated care delivery model it embodies, at risk.

As the 114th Congress begins its work this year, please consider the critical role that Medicare Advantage plays in developing a better care delivery model. We know that you face a number of important fiscal, budgetary, and healthcare priorities. As these priorities arise, we urge you to protect Medicare Advantage from further cuts, and support opportunities to grow and spread coordinated care across the healthcare delivery system.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request. We look forward to working with you on this and other important healthcare issues in the 114th Congress.

Sincerely,



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Working Together for an Affordable Future