



Legislative Bulletin.....March 14, 2014

Contents:

H.R. 4015 - SGR Repeal and Medicare Provider Payment Modernization Act of 2014

H.R. 4015 - SGR Repeal and Medicare Provider Payment Modernization Act of 2014 — (Burgess, R-TX)

Order of Business: [H.R. 4015](#) will be voted on Friday, March 14, 2104. It will be considered under a closed [rule](#) which provides one hour of debate equally divided among and controlled by the chairs and ranking minority members of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means. In addition, it provides that the [amendment](#) offered by Mr. Camp shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read.

Summary: Below is a section by section break down of H.R. 4015:

Section 1:

- Short title; table of contents

Section 2:

- The Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) is repealed. From the years 2014-2018 providers will receive an annual update of 0.5 percent. The 2018 rates will be maintained through 2023. During these years providers will have the opportunity to receive additional payments from a Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). From the years 2024 and beyond providers participating in alternative payment models (APM) will receive a 1 percent update while all other providers would receive a 0.5 percent update.
- This bill consolidates three current law programs which currently affect provider reimbursement into one for the MIPS which begins in 2018.
 - The three plans which are consolidated are: the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS), the Value-Based Modifier (VBM) and the meaningful use of electronic health records.
- The Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) established by this bill directs the Secretary to develop a methodology for assessing MIPS eligible providers according to performance standards which will provide a composite performance score which will determine the adjustment factor for a provider each year.

- The Secretary will use the following categories to determine the composite performance score: quality, resource use, clinical practice improvement activities and meaningful use of certified HER technology.
- Each year, the Secretary will establish an annual list of quality measures for MIPS assessment (through notice and comment rulemaking) which eligible providers may choose for the purposes of assessment.
 - Eligible professional organizations and stakeholders will be able to identify and submit quality measures to be considered for selection. In addition, they will be able to submit updates to the measures on the list.
 - To the extent practicable, quality measures selected for inclusion on the final list will address: clinical care, safety, care coordination, patient and caregiver experience, and population health and prevention.
- Composite Performance Score: The Secretary will develop a methodology for assessing the total performance of each MIPS eligible provider based on quality, resource use, clinical practice improvement activities and meaningful use of certified EHR technology. This composite assessment will use a scoring system of 0-100.
- Each eligible provider's composite performance score for a year will be compared to the performance threshold. The threshold will be the mean or the median of the composite performance scores for all the MIPS eligible providers during a period prior to the performance year. These payment adjustments will follow a linear distribution so that an adjustment factor of 0 percent is assigned for a score at the performance threshold.
 - Providers with a composite performance score at or above the threshold will receive zero or a positive incentive payment adjustment. Those with higher composite scores will receive higher adjustment factors.
 - Providers with a composite score below the threshold will receive a negative payment adjustment.
 - Negative payment adjustments will be capped at four percent for 2018, five percent for 2019, seven percent for 2020 and nine percent for 2021 and beyond.
 - The negative payment adjustments will fund the positive payment adjustments.
 - For 2018-2023 there is appropriated from the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund \$500,000,000 per year for additional incentive payments. This will allow some providers to receive incentive payments even if all providers score above zero on performance threshold.
- It is important to note, the MIPS adjustment factors will only apply to the year involved and the Secretary can't take into account that adjustment when making future payments to that provider.
- The Secretary will make available in a Physician Compare Internet website information regarding the performance of MIPS eligible providers which will include the composite score with regard to each performance category.
 - Providers will have the opportunity to review and submit corrections.
- Technical assistance will be available for small practices and practices in health professional shortage areas. \$40,000,000 will be made available annually for this with \$10,000,000 dedicated specially for technical assistance to small health practices in provider shortage areas.

- GAO must provide a report which reports on the Merit-based Incentive Payment System and examine the distribution of the composite scores and MIPS adjustment factors, provide recommendations, and evaluate the impact of the technical assistance funding.
- Providers are also encouraged to practice in Alternative Payment Models (APM) though incentive payments which would be a 5 percent bonus each year from 2018-2023.
- An APM can mean a shared savings program, a demonstration required by federal law, a model found under the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (other than a health care innovation award), or a demonstration under the health care quality demonstration program.
- The development and testing of certain models are also encouraged. These models include focusing on services furnished by physicians who are not primary care providers, practices with 15 or fewer professionals, and risk-based models for small physician practices which may involve two-sided risk.
- This bill establishes a Payment Model Technical Advisory Committee which would review models and prepare comments and recommendations on alternative payment model proposals.

Section 3: Priorities and Funding for Measure Development

- The Secretary will draw up a draft plan for the development of quality measures which will take into account issues such as describing how coordination will occur across organizations developing measures and how clinical best practices and guidelines should be used.
- The Secretary will give priority to outcome measures including patient reported outcomes and functional status measures, patient experience, care coordination and measures of appropriate use of services, including measures of overuse.
- Stakeholders will have the opportunity to submit comments through March 1, 2015, before the plan is finalized and made available online on May 1, 2015.
- The Secretary will be required to publish annual reports on the progress being made in developing quality measures.

Section 4: Encouraging Care Management for Individuals with Chronic Care Needs

- In order to encourage the management of care by an applicable provider the Secretary would establish at least one code for chronic care management services.
- These payments would be made to providers who furnish services in a patient-centered medical home or a comparable specialty practice.
- The Secretary will conduct an education and outreach campaign for providers the benefits of chronic care management services.

Section 5: Ensuring Accurate Valuation of Services under the Physician Fee Schedule

- Gives the Secretary the authority to collect and use information on the physicians' services in the determination of relative value. The Secretary may provide payments to providers who submit information as an incentive to participate.
 - Information collected may include: time involved in furnishing services, amounts and types of practice expenses involved in furnishing services, prices, overhead and accounting information for practices of physicians and other suppliers and other elements that may improve the valuation of services.

- In order to identify misvalued codes, the Secretary is directed to examine codes which have experienced the fastest growth, those that have experienced substantial changes in practice expenses, describe new technologies or services, those which have not been subject to review, those which have experienced substantial change, codes with high practice expense or high cost supply to name a few.
- Beginning with the 2015 physician fee schedule, total downward relative value unit (RVU) adjustments for services of 20 percent or more (as compared to the previous year) will be phased-in over two years.
- Beginning on January 1, 2017, the fee schedule areas used for payment applicable to California will transition to Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) as defined by the OMB. For services furnished in a transition area in California during a year beginning with 2017, the geographic index values to be applied under this subsection for such year shall not be less than the corresponding geographic index values that would have applied in such transition area.

Section 6: Promoting Evidence Based Care

- Establishes a program to promote the use of appropriate use criteria for advanced diagnostic imaging services taking place in a physician's office, a hospital outpatient department, ambulatory surgical centers and other provider-led outpatient setting determined by the Secretary.
 - This criteria is developed and endorsed by national professional medical specialty societies or other provider-led entities.
 - The Secretary must take into consideration whether the criteria has stakeholder consensus, scientifically valid and evidence based, and is based on studies that are published and reviewable by stakeholders.
- Beginning on January 1, 2017, payment will only be made to the furnishing provides of an applicable advanced diagnostic imaging service if the claims for the service include information about which qualified decision support point mechanism was consulted, whether the service ordered would adhere to the applicable appropriate use criteria, whether the service would not adhere to such criteria or whether such criteria was not applicable to services ordered.
 - The requirement to consult with appropriate use criteria does not apply to emergency services as defined under EMTALA, inpatient services for which payments are made under Medicare Part A, ordered by a provider with respect to an individual attributed to an APM, or those who meet a hardship criteria.
- Beginning in 2017, with respect to applicable imaging services, the Secretary is directed to determine on an annual basis no more than 5 percent of the ordering providers who are outliers. This determination is based on low adherence to applicable appropriate use criteria based on two years of data.
 - Beginning on January 1, 2020, those who the Secretary determines are outliers will be subject to prior authorization for applicable imaging services.

Section 7: Empowering Beneficiary Choice through Access to Information on Physicians' Services

- The Secretary will make information regarding eligible providers available on the Physician Compare website.

- This information includes: number of services furnished under Part B, information on submitted charges and payments, and would be searchable by the type of provider, location or services furnished.

Section 8: Expanding Availability of Medicare Data

- Entities which currently receive Medicare data for public reporting purposes (qualified entities) will be permitted to provide non-public analyses and claims data to physicians, other professionals, providers, medical societies, and hospital associations.
- To ensure privacy, qualified entities must have a data use agreement with providers and entities to which they provide data, and be subject to an assessment for breach of such agreement.

Section 9: Reducing Administrative Burden and Other Provisions

- Allows professionals who opt-out of Medicare to automatically renew at the of each two year cycle.
- Requires EHR to be interoperable by 2017 and prevents the blocking of sharing of information.
- Includes a rule of construction which says, the development, recognition, or implementation of any guideline or other standard under any Federal health care provision shall not be construed to establish the standard of care or duty of care owed by a health care provider to a patient in any medical malpractice or medical product liability action or claim or to preempt any standard of care or duty of care, owed by a health care provider to a patient, duly established under State or common law.

Amendment offered by Mr. Camp

The Camp amendment would retain the requirement to maintain minimum essential coverage beginning in 2014; however, there would be no penalty payment for failing to comply with that requirement prior to 2019. The amendment would shift the schedule of penalties for people who do not comply with the mandate to begin in 2019.

Additional Background: The Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) is the statutory method for determining the annual updates to the Medicare physician fee schedule (MPFS). The SGR system was established because of the concern that the Medicare fee schedule itself would not adequately constrain overall increases in spending for physicians' services.

In the first few years of the SGR system, the actual expenditures did not exceed the targets and the updates to the physician fee schedule were close to the Medicare economic index. Beginning in 2002, the actual expenditure exceeded allowed targets, and the discrepancy has grown with each year. However, with the exception of 2002, Congress has acted 18 times to override the reductions.¹ It is [estimated](#) the total cost of all the patches is about \$153 billion. Most recently, [H.J. Res 59](#), which [passed](#) the House on September 20, 2013, contained a three month physician payment update which will last through March 31, 2014. If the current authorization is allowed to expire on March 31, doctors could see their reimbursements cut by 24 percent.

¹ http://www.crs.gov/pages/Reports.aspx?PRODCODE=R40907&Source=search#_Ref245293986

There are concerns that the way the SGR currently functions – which has required continuous patches to prevent deep cuts - actually shields the actual growing costs of the Medicare program. For example, the Medicare trustees warned in their [report](#):

Overriding the productivity adjustments, as Congress has done repeatedly in the case of physician payment rates, would lead to far higher costs for Medicare in the long range than those projected under current law. For these reasons, the financial projections shown in this report for Medicare do not represent a reasonable expectation for actual program operations in either the short range (as a result of the unsustainable reductions in physician payment rates) or the long range (because of the strong likelihood that the statutory reductions in price updates for most categories of Medicare provider services will not be viable).trust fund accounts.

This bill represents an SGR repeal and payment reform policy that has been agreed upon in a bipartisan manner by the leaders of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. Read more background prepared by the committee of jurisdiction [here](#).

Committee Action: This bill was introduced by Representative Michael Burgess on February 6, 2014. It was then referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary where it awaits further action.

Outside Groups Support: Letters of support have been submitted from over 700 organizations which are listed at the end of this bulletin. Read a selection of those letters [here](#).

Administration Position: The Administration strongly [opposes](#) House passage of H.R. 4015, the SGR Repeal and Medicare Provider Payment Modernization Act of 2014 because it includes an offset that would increase health insurance premiums, decrease tax credits, increase the number of uninsured, and shift costs to businesses, workers, and health care providers. If the President were presented with H.R. 4015, he would veto it.

Cost to Taxpayers: According to [CBO](#), H.R. 4015, as introduced, would increase direct spending by about \$138 billion over the 2014-2024 period. However, after the introduction of Mr. Camp’s amendment – which would save \$169.5 billion over the 2014-2024 period, [CBO](#) estimates this bill will decrease direct spending by \$31.1 billion.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: This bill gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services broad authority to set standards and implement the new reforms. It is important to note the Medicare program is already under the purview of the Secretary.

Constitutional Authority: According to the sponsor, “Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.” Read the statement [here](#).

RSC Staff Contact: Rebekah Armstrong, Rebekah.Armstrong@mail.house.gov, 202-226-0678

NOTE: *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*

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American College of Radiology
American Osteopathic Association
American Medical Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American College of Physicians
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Society of Clinical Oncology
Federation Letter
Aerospace Medical Association
AMDA – Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
 American Academy of Disability Evaluating Physicians
 American Academy of Home Care Medicine
 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
 American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy
 American Academy of Pediatrics
 American Academy of Sleep Medicine
 American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
 American Association of Foot and Ankle Surgeons
 American College of Phlebology
 American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
 American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons
 American Association of Neuromuscular
 and Electrodiagnostic Medicine
 American College of Allergy, Asthma, and
Immunology
 American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians
 American College of Osteopathic Internists
 American College of Radiation Oncology
 American Geriatrics Society
 American Medical Women's Association
 American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine
 American Pediatric Surgical Association
 American Society for Surgery of the Hand
 American Society of Bariatric Physicians
 American Society of Ophthalmic Administrators
 American Society of General Surgeons
 American Medical Directors Association – Dedicated to
 Long Term Care Medicine
 American Society for Dermatologic Surgery
 Association
 American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
 American Society for Reproductive Medicine
 American Society of Dermatopathology
 American Society of Hematology
 American Society of Neuroradiology
 American Society of Transplant Surgeons
 American Spinal Injury Association
 American Urogynecologic Society
 American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians
 American Society of Nephrology
 American Society of Retina Specialists
 American Thoracic Society
 Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine
 Association of Otolaryngology Administrators

Cervical Spine Research Society
Eastern Orthopaedic Association
Child Neurology Society
International Spine Intervention Society
International Society for the Advancement of Spine
Surgery
Joint Council of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
Medical Group Management Association
Musculoskeletal Tumor Society
Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Association
Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America
Scoliosis Research Society
Heart Rhythm Society
Society for Vascular Medicine
Infectious Diseases Society of America
National Association of Spine Specialists
Renal Physicians Associations
Society of Critical Care Medicine
Society of Hospital Medicine
Society of Interventional Radiology
Southern Orthopaedic Association
The Endocrine Society
Western Orthopaedic Association
State Societies
 Medical Association of the State of Alabama
 Alabama Academy of Ophthalmology
 Alabama Academy of Radiology
 Alabama Cancer Congress
 Alabama Chapter of the American College of C
 ardiology
 Alabama Orthopaedic Society
 Alabama Psychiatric Physicians Association
 Alabama Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck
 Surgery
 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists –
 Alabama
 American College of Physicians – Alabama Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Alabama Chapter
 Alaska State Medical Association
 Alaska Chapter American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 Alaska Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Alaska Psychiatric Association
 Alaska Radiological Society
 American College of Physicians – Alaska Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Alaska Chapter
 Denali Oncology Group
 Arizona Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Arizona Chapter
 Arizona Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Arizona Ophthalmological Society
 Arizona Psychiatric Society
 Arizona Radiological Society
 Arizona United Rheumatology Alliance
 Arkansas Medical Society
 American College of Surgeons – Arkansas Chapter
 American College of Physicians – Arkansas Chapter

Arkansas Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Arkansas Ophthalmological Society
 Arkansas Orthopaedic Society
 Arkansas Psychiatric Society
 Arkansas State Rheumatology Alliance
 California Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Southern California
 Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Northern California
 Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – San Diego Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Southern California
 Chapter
 Association of Northern California Oncologists
 California Academy of Eye Physicians & Surgeons
 California Association of Long Term Care Medicine
 California Chapter American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 California Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 California Otolaryngology Society
 California Psychiatric Association
 California Radiological Society
 California Rheumatology Alliance
 California Society of Pathologists
 Medical Oncology Association of Southern California
 San Diego Academy of Otolaryngology
 San Diego Psychiatric Society
 Southern California Psychiatric Society
 Colorado Medical Society
 American College of Physicians Colorado Chapter
 Colorado Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Colorado Dermatologic Society
 Colorado Orthopaedic Society
 Colorado Psychiatric Society
 Colorado Radiological Society
 Colorado Rheumatology Association
 Colorado Society of Clinical Pathologists
 Colorado Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Rocky Mountain Oncology Society
 Connecticut State Medical Society
 American College of Physicians – Connecticut Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Connecticut Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologist -
 Connecticut Section
 Connecticut Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Connecticut College of Emergency Physicians
 Connecticut Ear, Nose, and Throat Society
 Connecticut Medical Directors Association
 Connecticut Oncology Association
 Connecticut Orthopaedic Society
 Connecticut Psychiatric Society
 Connecticut Rheumatology Alliance
 Radiological Society of Connecticut
 Medical Society of Delaware
 American College of Physicians – Delaware Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Delaware Chapter
 Delaware Academy of Ophthalmology
 Delaware Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and
 Neck Surgery
 Delaware Chapter of American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 Delaware Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Delaware Pathology Society
 Delaware Radiological Society
 Delaware Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons

Delaware Society for Clinical Oncology
 Psychiatric Society of Delaware
 Medical Society of the District of Columbia
 American College of Surgeons – District of Columbia
 Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - DC Section
 Capital District Branch of the American Psychiatric
 Association
 District of Columbia Chapter of the American College
 of Cardiology
 Maryland, DC Society of Clinical Oncology*
 Rheumatism Society of the District of Columbia
 Washington DC Metropolitan Ophthalmological
 Society
 Washington Metropolitan Area Otolaryngology Society
 Florida Society of Neurology
 American College of Physicians – Florida Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – South Florida Chapter
 Florida Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Florida College of Emergency Physicians
 Florida Medical Directors Association
 Florida Psychiatric Society
 Florida Radiological Society
 Florida Society of Clinical Oncology
 Florida Society of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive
 Surgery
 Florida Society of Ophthalmology
 Florida Society of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck
 Surgery
 Florida Society of Pathologists
 Florida Society of Rheumatology
 Society of Hospital Medicine - Western Florida Chapter
 Medical Association of Georgia
 American College of Physicians – Georgia Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Georgia Society of the
 ACS
 Georgia Association of Pathologists
 Georgia Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Georgia College of Emergency Physicians
 Georgia Orthopaedic Society
 Georgia Radiological Society
 Georgia Society of Clinical Oncology
 Georgia Society of Rheumatology
 Metro Atlanta Otolaryngology—Head and Neck
 Society
 Hawaii Medical Association
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - Hawaii Section
 Hawaii Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Hawaii Radiological Society
 Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology
 Hawaii Society of Pathologists
 Society of Hospital Medicine – Hawaii Chapter
 Idaho Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Idaho Chapter
 Idaho Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Idaho Psychiatric Association
 Idaho Society of Clinical Oncology
 Idaho Society of Ophthalmology
 Idaho Society of Pathologists
 Illinois State Medical Society
 American College of Physicians – Illinois Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Illinois Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Metropolitan Chicago
 Chapter
 Illinois Association of Ophthalmology
 Illinois Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Illinois Medical Oncology Society

Illinois Psychiatric Society
 Illinois Society of Pathologists
 Indiana State Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Indiana Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Indiana Chapter
 Central Indiana Otolaryngology Society
 Indiana Academy of Ophthalmology
 Indiana Association of Pathologists
 Indiana Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Indiana Neurological Society
 Indiana Oncology Society
 Indiana Orthopaedic Society
 Indiana Psychiatric Society
 Indiana Radiological Society
 Iowa Medical Society
 Iowa Academy of Ophthalmology
 Iowa Association of Pathologists
 Iowa Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Iowa Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Iowa Dermatological Society
 Iowa Neurological Association
 Iowa Oncology Society
 Iowa Psychiatric Society
 Iowa Radiological Society
 American College of Surgeons – Kansas Chapter
 Kansas Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Kansas Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Kansas Psychiatric Society
 Kansas Society of Clinical Oncology
 Kansas Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Kansas Society of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
 Kansas Society of Pathologists
 Kentucky Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Kentucky Chapter
 Kentucky Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Kentucky Association of Medical Oncology
 Kentucky Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Kentucky Dermatological Association
 Kentucky Psychiatric Medical Association
 Kentucky Rheumatology Alliance
 Kentucky Society of Pathologists
 College of Physicians – Louisiana Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Louisiana Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologist - Louisiana Section
 Louisiana Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
 Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Louisiana Neurological Society
 Louisiana Oncology Society
 Louisiana Ophthalmology Association
 Louisiana Orthopaedic Association
 Louisiana Pathology Society
 Louisiana Psychiatric Medical Association
 Radiological Society of Louisiana
 Maine Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Maine Chapter
 Maine Association of Psychiatric Physicians
 Maine Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Maine Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Maine Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons
 Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire Rheumatology Association*
 Northern New England Chapter of the American College of Cardiology*
 Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society*
 Society of Hospital Medicine – Maine Chapter
 MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society
 American College of Physicians – Maryland Chapter
 Maryland Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Maryland Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Maryland, DC Society of Clinical Oncology*
 Maryland Orthopaedic Association
 Maryland Psychiatric Society
 Maryland Radiological Society
 Maryland Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Maryland Society of Pathologists
 Society of Hospital Medicine - Maryland Chapter
 Massachusetts Medical Society
 American College of Physicians – Massachusetts Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Massachusetts Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists – Massachusetts Section
 Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Massachusetts College of Emergency Physicians
 Massachusetts Orthopaedic Association
 Massachusetts Psychiatric Society
 Massachusetts Section
 Massachusetts Society of Clinical Oncologists
 Massachusetts Society of Pathologists
 Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire Rheumatology Association*
 Michigan State Medical Society
 American College of Physicians – Michigan Chapter
 Michigan Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Michigan College of Emergency Physicians
 Michigan Orthopaedic Society
 Michigan Psychiatric Society
 Michigan Radiological Society
 Michigan Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Michigan Society of Hematology & Oncology
 Michigan Society of Pathologists
 Minnesota Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Minnesota Chapter
 Minnesota Academy of Ophthalmology
 Minnesota Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Minnesota Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Minnesota Dermatological Society
 Minnesota Orthopaedic Society
 Minnesota Radiological Society
 Minnesota Society of Clinical Oncology
 Minnesota Society of Pathologists
 Mississippi State Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Mississippi Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Mississippi Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists - Mississippi Section
 Mississippi Arthritis & Rheumatology Association
 Mississippi Association of Pathologists
 Mississippi Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Mississippi Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Mississippi Oncology Society
 Mississippi Psychiatric Association

Mississippi Radiological Society
 Missouri State Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Missouri Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Missouri Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - Missouri Section
 Missouri Association of Long Term Care Practitioners
 Missouri Chapter American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 Missouri Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Missouri Dermatological Society
 Missouri Oncology Society
 Missouri Psychiatric Association
 Missouri Radiological Society
 Missouri Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Missouri Society of Pathologists
 Missouri State Neurological Association
 Missouri State Orthopaedic Association
 Society of Hospital Medicine – St. Louis Chapter
 Montana Radiological Society
 American College of Physicians - Montana Chapter
 Montana Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Montana Society of Clinical Oncology
 Montana State Pathology Society
 Nebraska Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Nebraska Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - Nebraska Section
 Nebraska Association of Pathologists
 Nebraska Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Nebraska Oncology Society
 Nebraska Psychiatric Society
 Nevada State Medical Association
 American College of Surgeons – Nevada Chapter
 Nevada Academy of Ophthalmology
 Nevada Association of Pathologists
 Nevada Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Nevada Orthopaedic Society
 Nevada Psychiatric Association
 Nevada Radiological Society
 New Hampshire Medical Society
 American College of Physicians – New Hampshire
 Chapter
 Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire Rheumatology
 Association*
 New Hampshire Psychiatric Society
 New Hampshire Society of Eye Physicians and
 Surgeons
 New Hampshire Society of Pathologists
 Northern New England Chapter of the American
 College of Cardiology*
 Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society*
 Medical Society of New Jersey
 American College of Physicians – New Jersey Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – New Jersey Chapter
 Dermatological Society of New Jersey
 Medical Oncology Society of New Jersey
 New Jersey Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and
 Neck Surgery
 New Jersey Chapter American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 New Jersey Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 New Jersey Medical Directors Association
 New Jersey Orthopaedic Society
 New Jersey Psychiatric Association
 New Jersey Society of Pathologists

Radiological Society of New Jersey
 New Mexico Medical Society
 American College of Physicians - New Mexico Chapter
 New Mexico Academy of Ophthalmology
 New Mexico Chapter American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 New Mexico Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 New Mexico Medical Directors Association
 New Mexico Orthopaedic Association
 New Mexico Society of Clinical Oncology
 Psychiatric Medical Association of New Mexico
 American College of Physicians – New York Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Brooklyn/Long Island
 Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – New York Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - New York Section 10
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 – New York State Section 9
 Central New York District Branch of the American
 Psychiatric Association
 Greater Long Island Psychiatric Society
 New York American College of Emergency Physicians
 New York Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 New York County District Branch of the American
 Psychiatric Association
 New York Laryngological Society
 New York Medical Directors Association
 New York Otolgic Society
 New York State Neurological Society
 New York State Psychiatric Association
 New York State Radiological Society
 New York State Rheumatology Society
 New York State Society of Dermatology and
 Dermatologic Surgery
 New York State Society of Otolaryngology—Head &
 Neck Surgery
 New York State Society of Pathologists
 Northern New York District Branch of the American
 Psychiatric Association
 Psychiatric Society of Westchester County
 Society of Hospital Medicine – New York
 City/Westchester Chapter
 Society of Hospital Medicine – Upstate New York
 Chapter
 Upstate New York Society of Medical Oncology and
 Hematology
 West Hudson Psychiatric Society
 North Carolina Medical Society
 American College of Physicians North Carolina
 Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – North Carolina
 Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - North Carolina Section
 Carolinas Chapter, American Association of Clinical
 Endocrinologists
 North Carolina Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 North Carolina College of Emergency Physicians
 North Carolina Dermatology Association
 North Carolina Medical Directors Association
 North Carolina Neurological Society
 North Carolina Oncology Association
 North Carolina Orthopaedic Association
 North Carolina Psychiatric Association
 North Carolina Radiological Society
 North Carolina Rheumatology Association

North Carolina Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 North Carolina Society of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
 North Carolina Society of Pathologists
 North Dakota Medical Association
 American College of Surgeons – North Dakota Chapter
 Great Plains Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 North Dakota Orthopaedic Society
 North Dakota Psychiatric Society
 North Dakota Radiological Society
 North Dakota Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Ohio State Medical Association
 American College of Physicians Ohio Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Ohio Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists - Ohio Section
 Northeastern Ohio Society of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
 Northwest Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
 Ohio Association of Rheumatology
 Ohio Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Ohio Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Ohio Dermatological Association
 Ohio Hematology Oncology Society
 Ohio Orthopaedic Society
 Ohio Society of Pathologists
 Ohio State Radiological Society
 Oklahoma State Medical Association
 American College of Physicians Oklahoma Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists - Oklahoma Section
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 Oklahoma Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association
 Oklahoma Society of Clinical Oncology
 Oklahoma State Association of Pathologists
 Oklahoma State Dermatology Society
 Oregon Medical Association
 American College of Physicians Oregon Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Oregon Chapter
 Oregon Academy of Ophthalmology
 Oregon Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
 Oregon Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Oregon Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Oregon Pathologists Association
 Oregon Rheumatology Alliance
 Oregon Society of Medical Oncology
 Pennsylvania Medical Society
 American College of Physicians Pennsylvania Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Keystone Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Metropolitan Philadelphia Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Northwest Pennsylvania Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter
 Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery
 Pennsylvania Academy of Ophthalmology
 Pennsylvania Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
 Pennsylvania Association of Long Term Medicine
 Pennsylvania Association of Pathologists
 Pennsylvania Chapter of the American College of Cardiology

Pennsylvania Neurological Society
 Pennsylvania Orthopaedic Society
 Pennsylvania Psychiatric Society
 Pennsylvania Radiological Society
 Pennsylvania Rheumatology Society
 Pennsylvania Society of Oncology & Hematology
 Puerto Rico Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Puerto Rico Chapter of the American College of Radiology
 Puerto Rico Ophthalmology Society
 Rhode Island Medical Society
 American College of Physicians Rhode Island Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Rhode Island Chapter
 Rhode Island Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Rhode Island Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Rhode Island Psychiatric Society
 Rhode Island Society of Ear Nose Throat Physicians
 Rhode Island Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Rhode Island Society of Pathologists
 Society of Rhode Island Clinical Oncologists
 South Carolina Medical Association
 American College of Physicians South Carolina Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – South Carolina Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists - South Carolina Section
 South Carolina Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 South Carolina College of Emergency Physicians
 South Carolina Dermatological Association
 South Carolina Medical Directors Association
 South Carolina Neurological Association
 South Carolina Oncology Society
 South Carolina Psychiatric Association
 South Carolina Radiological Society
 South Carolina Rheumatism Society
 South Carolina Society of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
 South Carolina Society of Pathologists
 South Dakota State Medical Association
 American College of Physicians South Dakota Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – South Dakota Chapter
 South Dakota Psychiatric Association
 South Dakota Radiological Society
 South Dakota Society of Pathologists
 Tennessee Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Tennessee Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Tennessee Chapter
 Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology
 Tennessee Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians
 Tennessee Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Tennessee Dermatology Society
 Tennessee Oncology Practice Society
 Tennessee Orthopaedic Society
 Tennessee Rheumatology Society
 Tennessee Society of Pathologists
 Texas Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Texas Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – North Texas Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – South Texas Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists - Texas Section 5
 Central Texas Rheumatology Society
 Rheumatology Society of North Texas

South Texas Association of Rheumatologists
 Texas Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Texas Neurological Society
 Texas Ophthalmological Association
 Texas Orthopaedic Association
 Texas Radiological Society
 Texas Society of Clinical Oncology
 Texas Society of Pathologists
 Utah Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Utah Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - Utah Section
 Society of Utah Medical Oncologists
 Utah Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
 Utah Psychiatric Association
 Utah Radiological Society
 Utah Society of Dermatologic Medicine and Surgery
 Utah Society of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck
 Surgery
 Utah Society of Pathologists
 Vermont Medical Society
 American College of Physicians – Vermont Chapter
 Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society*
 Vermont Otolaryngology Society
 Vermont Psychiatric Association
 Medical Society of Virginia
 American College of Physicians –Virginia Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Virginia Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - Virginia Section
 Commonwealth Neurological Society
 Psychiatric Society of Virginia
 Virginia Association of Hematology and Oncology
 Virginia Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Virginia Chapter of the American College of Radiology
 Virginia College of Emergency Physicians
 Virginia Medical Directors Association
 Virginia Orthopaedic Society
 Virginia Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Virginia Society of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck
 Surgery
 Virginia Society of Pathologists
 Virginia Society of Rheumatologists
 Washington State Medical Association
 American College of Physicians – Washington State
 Chapter
 American College of Surgeons – Washington Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - Washington State Section
 Northwest Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and
 Neck Surgery
 Washington Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
 Washington Chapter American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 Washington Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Washington Medical Directors Association
 Washington Psychiatric Association
 Washington State Dermatology
 Washington State Medical Oncology Society
 Washington State Neurological Society
 Washington State Rheumatology Association
 Washington State Society of Pathologists
 West Virginia State Medical Association
 American College of Surgeons – West Virginia Chapter
 West Virginia Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and
 Neck Surgery
 West Virginia Association of Pathologists

West Virginia Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 West Virginia Neurological Society
 West Virginia Oncology Society
 West Virginia Psychiatric Association
 West Virginia Rheumatology State Society
 Wisconsin Medical Society
 American College of Physicians – Wisconsin Chapter
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 - Wisconsin Section
 Wisconsin Academy of Ophthalmology
 Wisconsin Association of Hematology & Oncology
 Wisconsin Chapter American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 Wisconsin Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Wisconsin Dermatological Society
 Wisconsin Orthopaedic Society
 Wisconsin Psychiatric Association
 Wisconsin Society of Pathologists, Inc.
 Wisconsin Surgical Society Chapter of the American
 College of Surgeons
 Wyoming Medical Society
 Wyoming Chapter American College of Emergency
 Physicians
 Wyoming Chapter of the American College of
 Cardiology
 Wyoming Radiological Society
 Pacific Business Group on Health
 American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
 American College of Surgeons
 Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 American Academy of Neurology
 American Society for Radiation Oncology
 American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
 American College of Emergency Physicians
 Alliance of Specialty Medicine
 American Academy of Facial Plastic and
 Reconstructive Surgery
 American Association of Neurological Surgeons
 American College of Mohs Surgery
 American Gastroenterological Association
 American Society of Echocardiography
 American Urological Association
 Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations
 Congress of Neurological Surgeons
 North American Spine Society
 Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and
 Interventions
 Society for Excellence in Eyecare
 Cardiology Coalition
 American College of Cardiology
 American Society of Nuclear Cardiology
 American Society of Echocardiography
 American College of Mohs Surgery
 American College of Physician Executives
 Pathology Coalition
 American Pathology Foundation
 American Society for Clinical Pathology
 American Society of Cytopathology
 Association for Molecular Pathology
 Association of Pathology Chairs
 College of American Pathologists
 National Association of Medical Examiners
 American Academy of Dermatology
 Congress of Neurological Surgeons
 American Association of Neurological Surgeons
 American College of Rheumatology
 Therapy Coalition
 American Health Care Association

American Heart Association/ American Stroke Association
 American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association
 American Occupational Therapy Association
 American Physical Therapy Association
 American Speech-Language Hearing Association
 Arthritis Foundation
 Brain Injury Association of America
 Leading Age
 National Association of Rehabilitation Providers and Agencies
 National Association for the Support of Long Term Care
 National Stroke Association
 Parkinson's Action Network
 The ALS Association
 The National Multiple Sclerosis Society
 United Spinal Association
 Remote Cardiac Services Provider Group
 American Society for Clinical Pathology
 American Podiatric Medical Association
 American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Surgeons Coalition
 American College of Surgeons
 American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons
 American Academy of Ophthalmology
 American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery
 American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
 American College of Osteopathic Surgeons
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologist
 American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics
 American Society of Breast Surgeons
 American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
 American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgeons
 American Urogynecologic Society
 American Urological Association
 Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons
 Society of Gynecologic Oncology
 Society for Vascular Surgery
 The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
 American Academy of Ophthalmology
 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses
 The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
 American Psychiatric Association
 Premier Healthcare Alliance
 American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery
 The American Geriatrics Society
 Fleet Reserve Association