

AMERICA'S PHYSICIAN GROUPS

**Taking Responsibility
for America's Health**

From our formation as the Physician Groups Council in 1995, to the California Association of Physician Organizations (CAPO) in 2002, to the California Association of Physician Groups (CAPG) in 2003, to CAPG, the Voice of Accountable Physician Groups in 2013, our organization has been the leading association representing accountable, coordinated physician groups. Now, in 2018, we have rebranded to America's Physician Groups.

Who We Are

America's Physician Groups is more than just a name change. While the name does indeed more accurately reflect our membership footprint (**over 300 organizations in 43 states, DC, and Puerto Rico**), more importantly, we are truly taking responsibility for America's health by driving down cost and improving the health of the population.

For decades, our members have been addressing these challenges in our healthcare system. They are committed to responsible payment models, including capitation, that make them accountable for both cost and quality. While our name might be new, our mission remains the same – delivering comprehensive, coordinated care to keep the population healthy while working within a defined budget.

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2018 Priorities

Strengthening and Protecting MACRA – The Medicare Access and CHIP

Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) is central to the goal of moving away from our current fee-for-service reimbursement system, where clinicians are paid “per click” without an eye toward quality, cost, or elimination of waste and toward a system that reimburses clinicians based on quality, efficiency, and patient outcomes.

America’s Physician Groups is calling for timely MACRA implementation, with greater access to participation in the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and advanced Alternative Payment Models (APMs) for a wide variety of clinicians at various stages of the transformation journey.

Medicare Advantage (MA) – Our members recognize the importance of the care coordination tools MA provides both clinicians and patients. We have built an exceptional coalition of physician supporters for the program – now **over 300 physician organizations strong**. We successfully worked with clinicians, associations, beneficiary groups, health plans, and others to improve MA funding and strengthen the program.

Medicare Advantage APM – After years of advocacy work from APG, and congruent with both our MA and MACRA priorities, CMS announced the Medicare Advantage Qualifying Payment Arrangement Incentive (MAQI) Demonstration. However, this demo will not afford participants advanced APM status or the corresponding bonus payments. APG will continue to work with CMS to ensure that risk-bearing physicians in MA have parity with those in traditional Medicare, and expand access to advanced APMs in MA.

A Better ACO: The Third Option – In response to physicians’ need for additional advanced APM options as well as to address the weaknesses of the fee-for-service accountable care organization (ACO) program, America’s Physician Groups designed a better ACO model, the Third Option. The Third Option features prospective, capitated payments, robust quality measurements, and active beneficiary engagement. In late 2017, we worked closely with **Members of Congress in both the House and Senate** to submit a letter to CMS Administrator Seema Verma urging the agency to test a prospective, global payment ACO model that would qualify as an advanced APM under MACRA, on par with our Third Option model.

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