

## CMS Fee Schedule Increase and a Timely Solution

All Medicare provider clinics/organizations appreciate the sentiment behind CMS' increase in the physician fee schedule beginning in 2026— especially as it relates to supporting primary care physicians — the reality is that this adjustment still falls short. When measured against inflation and rising costs, the increase does not represent a true raise. Had CMS and Congress addressed the flaws in the sustainable growth rate formula over 20 years ago — ensuring physician payments kept pace with hospital reimbursements and inflation — this increase would be far more meaningful today.

The ongoing threats of reimbursement cuts and the political instability surrounding federal healthcare funding have reached an inflection point. Without a more meaningful increase in CMS reimbursement — it will remain difficult to recruit, retain, and sustain physicians as Medicare providers.

Reimbursement is also the primary reason why private practice physicians are dropping out of Medicare. Hospital-owned physicians can get around this with facility fees as well as having the primary care doctor refer everyone to have tests and see a hospital owned specialist. Private investment firms try to increase procedures in physician practices since this increases revenue.

A persistent gap remains between delivering high-value care and receiving fair compensation. In reality, these two things should not be mutually exclusive. Physicians need to continue advocating for both exceptional patient care and equitable reimbursement.

*The CMS Medicare CCM Program (M-CCM) is a timely solution that is an equitable reimbursement and exceptional patient care, utilization, and care management opportunity. And CMS wants all clinics/ organizations and providers to participate in 2026.*

We will send you an email with your clinic/organization's CMS Data Set Snapshot (pdf), which will show the possible annual additional CMS reimbursement and Total Cost of Care savings your clinic/organization and providers can capture from the program. The summary will break down the numbers in quite simple language. The email will also have a link to view our M-CCM Synopsis video.

**Go to our website to learn more, then click on the “Request Snapshot” at the bottom of the page to receive the Snapshot.**

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