

Payer Issues -- Network Adequacy

Whereas the directors:

1. Reviewed the rationale for their May 2015 motion making payer issues a priority for the remainder of the decade;
2. Heard a presentation on the recently failed mediation between CMS and the Colorado Association of Health Plans on out-of-network and other network adequacy issue,
3. Reviewed a survey of CMS members on the proposed mergers of four of the five largest commercial insurance carriers in the country;
4. Discussed strategy for resolving network adequacy and access issues over the next two years; and,
5. Discussed the latest study on physician burnout and its causes; the BOD passed the following resolve.

The following motion was adopted on March 11, that CMS:

1. Reaffirm its vote of May 2015 designating the resolution of payer issues, most particularly those that create barriers to the provision of good patient care and serve as a leading source of physician workplace dissatisfaction and burnout, as a high priority for the remainder of the decade.
2. Continue to develop and pursue policy positions that seek to strengthen physician/patient relationships, assure fairness, promote transparency of all criteria and transactional aspects of in and out network functions, and share accountability by all involved parties.
3. Recognize that medicine's network adequacy, access and administrative simplification agenda will have to be advocated in multiple venues. The patient-centered, clinical and economic concerns of physicians will remain a singular priority of CMS, along with the liability and professional review environment, requiring the long-term devotion of resources and political engagement.
4. Request that COMPAC qualify all candidates as a high priority on medicine's perspective on network adequacy, access and administrative simplification.
5. Remain committed to an inclusive and candid approach to developing a consensus among specialty societies, component societies and other physician-led organizations in advocating medicine's views in the public affairs arena.
6. Utilize all appropriate means to achieve these goals, always starting with an invitation to collaborate and dialogue in pursuit of mutually beneficial solutions that improve access to high quality, cost effective care.