



Congress was in recess this week and returns next week.

February 22, 2019

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ACEP submits Comments on the ACA Proposed Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2020

On Tuesday, ACEP responded to CMS' proposed annual Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for the 2020 benefit year. This rule proposes regulatory and financial parameters that affect qualified health plans (QHPs) on the Affordable Care Act Exchanges, plans in the individual, small group, and large group markets, and self-funded group health plans.

Of note, the proposed rule included a short request for comments related to price transparency. CMS is exploring ways to improve consumers' access to information about health care costs, including requiring health insurers to disclose a consumer's anticipated costs for particular services upon request within a certain timeframe.

ACEP's response addresses some of the questions and proposals related to price transparency, as well as a few other policies proposed in the rule and finalized in previous notices and guidance documents that have a significant impact on the coverage of emergency services and access to care for higher risk populations.

For more information or to read ACEP's full response, please contact [Jeff Davis](#).

ACEP 911 Network Members – We Need your Help in Gearing up for this new and busy 116th Congress

With the 116th Congress underway and over 100 new lawmakers in office, we are taking a comprehensive look at our 911 Network member list to identify ACEP members around the country whom we consider "grasstops" members of the Network. These ACEP members will have an established, strong working relationship with a federal legislator and have already developed a line of consistent communication through telephone, text, email, social media and or personal meetings. The relationships may originate from:

- repeated meetings in DC during LAC;
- hosting an ED visit or coffee for that legislator;
- getting to know the legislator's staff;
- delivering a NEMPAC check or representing NEMPAC at a local event for that legislator;
- knowing them first on the state level;
- a relative or friend in your community; or
- other contacts.

We are developing this "grasstops" list so that we can be ready to deploy our grassroots influence

effectively on a specific issue with targeted and immediate action. While we have a good idea of who qualifies for our “grasstops” or “key contact” list but want to be sure that we are as inclusive as possible.

Please let us know if you would like us to include you on the list and the legislator to whom you are connected. We will be sending you a confirmation email later next month as we will be reaching out to our grasstops in the future through a special communication network under development now. Contact [Jeanne Slade](#) or [Caitlin Demchuk](#) with your information or if you have questions.

Please “Save the Date” for the 2019 ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC which will be held May 5-8, 2019. If you want to make a difference or aspire to be a leader in emergency medicine, this is a must-attend conference with something for everyone. Opportunities abound to interact with elected officials and policymakers, and network with emergency medicine’s top leaders.

This conference will highlight reimbursement issues in EM and how we can work with Congress to improve the EM work environment along with combatting insurance company bad behavior and addressing patient access issues.

LAC 2019 will also bring back Wednesday’s Solutions Forum, where this year we will present and discuss emergency medicine-led solutions in telemedicine and the mental health crisis.

For more information, please go to <https://www.acep.org/lac/>.



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