

April 25, 2023

The Honorable Suzan DelBene
2330 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jeff Duncan
2229 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives DelBene and Duncan,

We, the undersigned organizations, strongly endorse the Chronic Care Management Improvement Act of 2023 to ensure that more chronically ill Medicare patients receive access to high-quality care. By removing the patient cost-sharing obligations from the Chronic Care Management (CCM) code, millions of chronically ill Medicare beneficiaries stand to benefit from the care coordination and care management services the code supports.

Because CCM is a critical part of coordinated care, Medicare began reimbursing clinicians for primarily non-face-to-face chronic care management under a separate code in the 2015 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. We continue to support this initiative to effectively manage chronic conditions and improve patients' health. Providers and care managers report many positive outcomes for beneficiaries who receive CCM services, including improved patient satisfaction and adherence to recommended therapies, improved clinician efficiency, and decreased hospitalizations and emergency department visits.

However, creating a separate billable code created a beneficiary cost-sharing obligation for care management services. Under current policy, Medicare beneficiaries are subject to a 20% coinsurance requirement to receive the service. This cost-sharing requirement creates a barrier to care, as beneficiaries are not accustomed to cost-sharing for care management services. The latest data reveals that only 4% of Medicare beneficiaries potentially eligible for CCM received these services. That amounts to 882,000 out of a potential pool of 22.5 million eligible CCM beneficiaries.¹

We support your legislation to waive the beneficiary coinsurance to manage chronic care conditions and improve patients' health more effectively and appreciate your leadership on this issue. Please let us know how we can be a resource to ensure that the coinsurance requirement is repealed so that more Medicare beneficiaries can benefit from coordinated care.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Family Physicians
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Physicians
American Diabetes Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Kidney Fund
American Hospital Association
American Medical Association
AMGA
American Osteopathic Association
American Psychiatric Association

American Psychological Association Services, Inc.
America's Essential Hospitals
America's Physician Groups
Association of American Medical Colleges
Cadence
Connected Health Initiative
ACT | The App Association
Federation of American Hospitals
Health Care Transformation Task Force
Healthcare Leadership Council
Kidney Care Partners

Medical Group Management Association
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association of ACOs
National Kidney Foundation
National Patient Advocate Foundation
Population Health Alliance
Premier Inc.
Primary Care Collaborative
The Alzheimer's Association and Alzheimer's Impact Movement
The Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease

i