

From: [APA Communications](#)
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Subject: APA Headlines: CMS Finalizes MACRA Rule For Medicare Payments To Physicians
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Good morning Ms Cathy Thompson

October 17, 2016

Leading The News

Advertisement

CMS Finalizes MACRA Rule For Medicare Payments To Physicians.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (10/14, Evans, Subscription Publication) reported the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on Friday released the final rule for dispersing Medicare payments to US physicians starting in 2019 under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act. Dr. Patrick Conway, the acting principal deputy administrator and chief medical officer of CMS, said, "We know that small practices can provide the same high quality care as larger ones" and asserted the "vast majority" of small physician groups will be successful.

The [AP](#) (10/14, Alonso-Zaldivar) reported that "officials said they considered more than 4,000 formal comments and held meetings around the country attended by more than 100,000 people before issuing the final rule," which "eases some timelines the administration initially proposed, and gives doctors more pathways for complying."

[Psychiatric News](#) (10/14) pointed out that "APA staff will be analyzing the final rule and its implications for APA members." APA CEO and Medical Director Saul Levin, MD, MPA, said, "Our expert staff are here to guide members in navigating these reforms and making this transition as smooth and simple as possible. I urge you to go to our website at www.psychiatry.org/MACRA and see the resources we have created for you."



Psychiatric News Alert



[CMS Issues Final Rule on MACRA; APA Is Here to Help Members Know Their Options](#)

[Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation May Reduce Cravings in People With Nicotine Use Disorder](#)

Do You Have Collaborative Care Experience or Knowledge?

The American Psychiatric Association is interested in identifying practices and/or physicians that have experience performing or have direct professional knowledge of psychiatric collaborative management services (as defined by the IMPACT, DIAMOND, COMPASS, AIMS models). If you are working in such a practice or are such a physician, please contact us through Becky Yowell at byowell@psych.org. Include your name and contact information, including your current email address. We are looking for psychiatrists as well as the primary care physicians/practices and care managers with whom they are working.



Psychiatric Treatment/Disorders

TMS May Benefit Patients With Tough-To-Treat Major Depression.

The [AP](#) (10/16, Holland) reported that transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), approved by the FDA in 2008, may benefit patients with major depression “who are unable to find relief from antidepressant medicines or other therapies.”

Psychiatry and Public Health

Minnesota To Implement New Mental Health Crisis Line By 2018 Or 2019.

The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (10/15, Smith) reported, “Officials with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) said that metro” Minneapolis-St. Paul “area counties will pilot the new” mental health “crisis line within a year before it is implemented statewide by 2018 or 2019.” The crisis line holds the promise of making “a request for help with mental illness as easy as calling 911.” The crisis line will take advantage of “a cellphone’s geolocation to route the call to that county’s crisis line rather than require a caller figure out which of dozens of numbers to call.”

Other News

US Healthcare Professionals Working To Reduce Incidence Of “ICU Delirium.”

[STAT](#) (10/14, McFarling) reported physicians and nurses across the US are working to reduce the incidence of “ICU delirium,” a condition characterized by “a sudden and intense confusion that can include hallucinations, delusions, and paranoia.”

Analysis: Pharmaceutical Industry Responds To Opioid Crisis With More Medications.

In a more than 2,200-word front-page analysis, the [Washington Post](#) (10/16, A1, Cha) considered how the development of medication to treat “opioid-induced constipation” (OIC) “illuminates the opportunism of pharmaceutical innovators and the consequences of a heavily drug-dependent society.” The Post reports that “six in 10 American adults take prescription” medications, but the pharmaceutical industry responded to the opioid epidemic with “more drugs” due to its creation of “a vast market for new meds to treat the side effects of the old ones.”

Friday's Lead Stories

- [Androgen Deprivation Therapy For Prostate Cancer May Be Associated With Increased Risk Of Dementia, Study Suggests.](#)
- [Natural Disasters May Cause An Increased Risk Of Substance Abuse, Researchers Say.](#)
- [White House Announces Additional Funding For BRAIN And Precision Medicine Initiatives.](#)
- [Opinion: NIMH Should Commit To Restoring Emphasis On Mental Health Research.](#)

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