

December 6, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Charles Schumer Majority Leader U.S. Senate The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Republican Leader U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Republican Leader U.S. Senate

Re: MGMA concerns over Medicare cuts that threaten patient access to care

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders Schumer, McConnell, and McCarthy:

On behalf of our member medical group practices, the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) writes to encourage you to address significant cuts to Medicare by the end of this year. These cuts will have a devastating impact on physician practices and the millions of Medicare beneficiaries they treat.

With a membership of more than 60,000 medical practice administrators, executives, and leaders, MGMA represents more than 15,000 medical groups in which more than 350,000 physicians practice. These groups range from small private practices in rural areas to large regional and national health systems and cover the full spectrum of physician specialties and organizational forms. Our diverse membership uniquely situates MGMA to offer its expertise on how these cuts threaten the group practice model and the patients they treat.

MGMA is greatly appreciative of the actions Congress took last year in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, to mitigate the impact of the scheduled Medicare payment cuts. However, as we approach the end of 2021, medical group practices face the following financial challenges effective Jan. 1, 2022 if Congress does not act:

- A 3.75% payment cut stemming from budget neutrality adjustments associated with prior policy changes in the Medicare physician fee schedule;
- The expiration of the 2% sequester moratorium due to the Budget Control Act of 2011;
- The burden of a 4% Statutory PAYGO sequester resulting from the passage of the American Rescue Plan Act; and
- Reductions in reimbursement up to 15% for tests in physician office laboratories resulting from the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA).

As the voice for the country's medical group practices, MGMA remains committed to promoting policies that enhance the ability of our members to provide high-quality, cost-effective care to the millions of patients they serve routinely, and to the emergency services they are called upon to provide during this

pandemic. We strongly urge you to prevent these cuts from going into effect before the end of this year. Should you have any questions, please contact Claire Ernst at cernst@mgma.org or 202-293-3450.

Sincerely,

/s/

Anders Gilberg, MGA Senior Vice President, Government Affairs