



April 28, 2026

The Honorable Roger Marshall, M.D.  
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
U.S. Senate

**Re: MGMA's Support for the Medicare Advantage Improvement Act**

Dear Senators Marshall and Whitehouse,

On behalf of our member medical group practices, the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) writes to thank you for introducing the Medicare Advantage Improvement Act. With a membership of more than 60,000 medical practice administrators, executives, and leaders, MGMA represents more than 15,000 medical group practices ranging from small private medical practices to large national health systems representing more than 350,000 physicians. We strongly support this legislation which will reform prior authorization, ensure medical groups receive prompt payment, and institute appropriate oversight of Medicare Advantage (MA) plans.

Prior authorization, denials, and downcoding in MA are three of the top five administrative burdens for medical groups in 2026.<sup>1</sup> These excessive utilization tactics delay care, undermine appropriate physician payment, and force practices to divert resources from patient care into unnecessary administrative tasks. Without policy intervention, participating in MA will become untenable for many practices and MA beneficiaries may face more barriers to accessing care.

The Medicare Advantage Improvement Act provides comprehensive reforms to prior authorization by reducing response timeframes, improving transparency, and establishing real-time authorization for certain services. The legislation also establishes important guardrails on retrospective clawbacks by strengthening prompt payment requirements and limiting post-authorization denials. By coupling these initiatives with a new compliance program, medical groups can trust that MA plans will be held accountable. Together, these provisions will reduce administrative burden for medical groups participating in MA and allow them to focus on what's most important: providing care to seniors.

We appreciate your longstanding leadership in supporting medical group practices and look forward to working with your office to advance this important legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Madison Hynes, Associate Director of Government Affairs, at [mhynes@mgma.org](mailto:mhynes@mgma.org) or 202-558-0972.

Sincerely,

/s/

Anders M. Gilberg  
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs

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<sup>1</sup> Medical Group Management Association's [2026 Regulatory Burden Report](#), page 3.