



The Maryland State Medical Society

News: For Immediate Release

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MEDCHI APPLAUDS CMS MACRA IMPLEMENTATION ANNOUNCEMENT

BALTIMORE, September 14, 2016 — Last week, Andrew Slavitt, Acting Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that the agency heard concerns expressed by physicians and groups like AMA and MedChi about the proposed start date for performance reporting by physicians under the new payment systems created by the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, or MACRA. In a draft regulation issued last April, CMS proposed to require physicians to begin reporting under the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) or through the advanced alternative payment model (APM) option on January 1, 2017, even though final regulations promulgating MACRA’s sweeping payment system changes would not be issued until the fall. Today, CMS announced that the final MACRA regulation will exempt physicians from any risk of penalties if they choose one of three distinct MIPS reporting options in 2017, in addition to the option of participating in an advanced APM:

MedChi applauds and supports this decision made by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. Gene Ransom, MedChi CEO, states, “the delay is a positive for physicians, as we need to take the time to get the underlying policy correct for physicians, patients and the public health.”

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.