

11. TELL THE VA TO KEEP PHYSICIAN-LED HEALTHCARE TEAMS.

The Department of Veterans Affairs recently published a [proposed rule](#) which would allow full practice authority for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) practicing in VA facilities, without regard for state practice acts. Next week, the AAFP will send a letter opposing these changes and will launch a [SpeakOut campaign](#) for members to submit comments to the VA.

12. REGULATORY BRIEF

- On June 24, CMS issued the a [proposed rule](#) pertaining to payment policies and rates under the End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Prospective Payment System (PPS) for renal dialysis services furnished to beneficiaries on or after January 1, 2017.
- On June 29, HHS [announced](#) the selection of nearly 200 physician group practices and 17 health insurance companies to participate in the Oncology Care Model which includes more than 3,200 oncologists and will cover approximately 155,000 Medicare beneficiaries nationwide. The Oncology Care Model began on July 1, 2016 and will run through June 30, 2021.
- On June 30, CMS [posted](#) the Open Payments data for program year 2015, along with newly submitted and updated 2013 and 2014 records. Open Payments (aka the “Sunshine Act”) is a national program providing data on the financial relationships between pharmaceutical and medical companies and health care providers. In 2015, health care industry manufacturers reported \$7.52 billion in payments and ownership and investment interests to physicians and teaching hospitals.
- On July 1, CMS [issued](#) a final rule that allows organizations to be approved as qualified entities to share or sell non-public analyses of Medicare and non- Medicare claims data to authorized users.
- On July 1, CMS [posted](#) a list of qualified provider-led entities (PLEs) to the CMS Appropriate Use Criteria website
- On July 6, the VA released a [statement](#) on the Commission on Care final [report](#).