



Health Insurance Consolidation

As of December 22, 2011

In 2011, the Academy:

- Strongly supported two proposed Medicare coverage decision memos in separate letters dated August 18. In one letter, the AAFP supported the CMS proposal to cover annual screenings for [depression](#) for Medicare beneficiaries in primary care settings that have staff-assisted depression care supports in place to assure accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and follow-up. The AAFP also supported CMS's proposal to begin coverage for screening and behavioral counseling for [alcohol misuse](#).
- Joined with other national and state organizations representing healthcare consumers, providers, employers and unions in a [letter](#) sent June 28 to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners to express concern over proposed methods to weaken the minimum medical-loss ratio (MLR) provisions of the ACA.
- In a March 3 [letter](#) to HHS, provided comments on the CO-OP program. In the letter, the AAFP strongly urged HHS to fully incorporate the patient centered medical home concept into the CO-OP program.
- Joined with 20 national organizations and 5 representative members of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners in a February 22 [letter](#) to the CMS's Center for Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight in response to the proposed rate increase disclosure and review regulation.
- Sent a [letter](#) on February 16 to the Employee Benefits Security Administration, CMS's Center for Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight, and the Internal Revenue Service regarding value-based insurance design in connection with preventive care. Sent HHS's Office of Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight a [letter](#) on January 19 regarding medical loss ratio requirements under the ACA.