

What We've Been Working On...

REGULATORY AFFAIRS

CMS

- TMVR/TEER proposed national coverage determination
- Peripheral Vascular Intervention Comparative Billing Reports

FDA

- Prescription Drug User Fee Act Public Meeting
- Establishing a High-Quality Real-World Data Ecosystem Meeting

HHS

- Additional release of CARES Act Provider Relief Funds

CPT/RUC

- Nine code change applications submitted for the October CPT meeting
- Developed one-page toolkit on telehealth coding and billing
- Executed RUC surveys and began Subcommittee Meetings for October Virtual RUC Meeting

Other

- eHI Patient Matching during COVID Virtual Congressional Briefing
- eHI Telehealth Caucus Advocacy Kickoff
- Telehealth: The Intersection of Technology and Health Care Heart House Roundtable
- Four drug pricing Executive Orders

PAYER AND CARE DELIVERY POLICY

Value-Based Payment Advocacy

- Planning Committee kickoff for the 2020 Value-Based Care in Cardiology Forum
- Ongoing work with NCDR and CMMI to incorporate registry measures into BPCI Advanced
- Review of BPCI Advanced Year 1 Report

Payer Relations

- Submitted Joint ACC/HRS response to UHC Catheter Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation Prior Authorization program
- Hosted an ACC/HRS webinar on UHC Prior Authorization with patient advocacy groups
- Discussions regarding Anthem's non-coverage of low-risk TAVR
- Solicited feedback from EP and Heart Failure Councils for Anthem's policy on Non-invasive Heart Failure and Arrhythmia Management and Monitoring System
- Discussed rural access to TAVR with Edwards

Quality Measure Advocacy

- Development and submission of PIQ Board of Trustees Report
- Review of CMS Quality Roadmap and attendance at webinar with HHS Deputy Secretary Hargan

ACC ADVOCACY JULY 2020 UPDATE

- Review of CMS Measure Development Plan Annual Update
- NQF meetings: Attendance at Cardiovascular, Surgery, Cost and Efficiency, and Consensus Workgroups
- Continued review of PCPI materials for potential use by ACC for educational purposes
- Review of NQF's draft report on measure sets and measure systems
- Reviewed CMS 2020 Experience Report for 2018 data; drafted slides
- Attendance at NCDR cost data workgroup call
- Initiated collaboration with communications staff to assess how to reach members and provide educational information regarding quality and payment/PIQ activities
- Member call to discuss potential alignment of ACC payment policy with NCDR/Fair Health cost measure activities

STATE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

State Legislative/Regulatory/Executive Advocacy Activity

- Submitted a [policy resolution on telehealth](#) to the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) for consideration at their virtual annual meeting. It was sponsored by Delaware Lt. Gov. Bethany Hall-Long (incoming NLGA chair), Louisiana Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser (outgoing NLGA chair), and South Carolina Lt. Gov. Paula Evette. The resolution was adopted unanimously.
- Colorado – Assisted CO ACC with letter to Gov. Polis in response to problematic changes in state peer assistance program contract affecting confidentiality. Submitted ACC letter to Gov. Polis at the request of the chapter.
- Minnesota - Follow up from Minnesota ACC advocacy meeting, reviewing telehealth information and outreach to state medical association
- New York – Working with state medical society and NY chapter on grassroots opposition to bill requiring prominent signage in physician offices outlining complaint procedures; Drafted action alert for NY-ACC regarding liability protections bill
- Ohio - Call with OH-ACC to discuss mid-year OSMA advocacy update
- Pennsylvania - PA sudden cardiac arrest bill signed by Governor Wolf with PA-ACC supported amendment language. Chapter submitted recommended language to be included in the EKG information sheet/consent form required under the new law.
- Texas – Working with TX ACC chapter to prepare prior authorization reform legislation for the 2021 state legislative session.

Conferences and Meetings

- Telehealth: The Intersection of Technology and Health Care Heart House Roundtable
- AMA ARC telehealth update call
- AMA ARC call on physicians running for state office
- Cardio Obstetrics workgroup advocacy call
- NLGA coffee chat with NY Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul
- BOG Advocacy webinar #1, with UT, ID, N. CA, S. CA, OR, WA, AK, HI, NV, AZ, CO
- BOG advocacy webinar #2 with IL, IA, MI, MN, MT NE, NM, ND, SD, WI, WY
- BOG State Advocacy webinar #3 with AR, IN, KS, KY, LA, MS, MO, OH, OK, TX, WV
- Touch base with NCSL Foundation and outreach to Health Policy Director
- Women in Government Relations DEI Summit
- ADA 30th anniversary DLC celebration event

ACC ADVOCACY JULY 2020 UPDATE

- Alliance for Health Policy Virtual Summit
- National Lieutenant Governors Association Virtual Annual Meeting

Resources and Projects

- Created resources for clinician wellness issue for MA-ACC BOT task force

CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

ACC HeartPAC

- 23 PAC Events/Calls, including several “Meet & Greets” for candidates
- Continued work on HeartPAC Lapsed Donor Outreach
- Continued work on HeartPAC governance efforts
- Legislative Conference Planning
- Participated in monthly FIT Council Call
- 2 Biweekly HeartPAC Leadership calls held
- Monthly HeartPAC Executive Committee Call held
- Processed mail PAC contributions and cut checks for Q2 events/commitments
- Drafted PAC/Advocacy theme BOG Update
- Processed mail PAC contributions and cut disbursement checks for campaigns
- Participated in July Healthcare PAC PALS touchbase
- Coordinated HeartPAC Advisory Council renewal reminders to lapsed 2020 donors
- Drafted slides for GA ACC Council Webinar for Dr. Pascha Schafer
- Drafted slides for Dr. Sandy Lewis presentation to WI ACC Chapter
- Worked with Legal on contracts for LAI Speakers at HeartPAC Virtual Event during Legislative Conference 2020

Legislative

- Executed a series of successful Virtual CAA Fly-In meetings with staff on committees of jurisdiction and the Doc Caucus
- Drafted updated COVID 4 package priorities letter to congressional leadership
- Signed AHIMA coalition letter urging members of Congress to support the Unique Patient Identifier in the FY21 appropriations package
- Endorsed the Coronavirus Health Care Worker Wellness Act (H.R. 7255) which would establish a grant program within HHS to allow health care employers to confidentially treat the mental health of clinicians working on the front lines of treating COVID-19 patients
- Joined AMA led coalition letter regarding surprise medical billing
- Joined AHA led coalition letter calling for the *Increasing Access to Quality Cardiac Rehabilitation Act of 2019* to be included in a future COVID-19 package
- The House of Representatives passed a six-bill minibus appropriations package, including the LHHS FY21 spending bill with increases or stable funding for CV disease research and prevention program priorities
- Claims data call with STS and Rep. Bucshon’s office
- Energy and Commerce Hearing: Efforts to Develop a Safe, Effective and Accessible COVID-19 Vaccine

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- PAD Advocacy Call with the American Heart Association
- ACC signed Mo-99 Coalition Letter in coordination with ASNC
- ACC signed CTFK coalition letter opposing efforts to weaken FDA's authority over tobacco products
- Senate Appropriations LHHS Subcommittee Hearing on Operation Warp Speed
- Senate VA Committee Hearing on Building a Resilient Veterans Health Care Workforce
- Senate VA Hearing on Telehealth in Rural Communities During and After COVID-19

Grassroots:

- Sent out alert for the 4th COVID-19 Package where 737 messages were sent to the hill from ACC members in the first week
- Shared more than 43 legislator town halls with ACC members
- Participated in Physician Group Practitioner Forum to discuss virtual advocacy
- Held a call with Member Leaders to Discuss the Legislative Conference Agenda
- Completed the Legislative Conference Registration Site
- Confirmed the update of the Beekeeper Advocacy Action App

Written Statement(s) Submitted

(Written statements like comments, joint letters, support letters)

- Submitted ACC letter to Gov. Polis at the request of Colorado ACC chapter in response to changes in peer assistance program contract that affect confidentiality.
- Joint ACC/HRS response to UHC Catheter Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation Prior Authorization program
- Comment letter to NCCI/CMS regarding PTP/MUE edits
- Comment letter to CMS regarding FY2021 IPPS Proposed Rule
- Comment letter to Noridian regarding draft FFR CT local coverage determination
- Comment letter to CMS regarding TMVR proposed NCD