

HRS Action Plan to Address Proposed Cuts to Ablation Codes

Over the next few weeks, HRS will utilize a **multi-pronged approach** to address the proposed payment cuts to cardiac catheter ablation codes, which will include the following steps:

1

INITIATE THE REGULATORY PROCESS

- Submit a formal comment letter to CMS recommending that the Agency (1) halt its plan to pay for the newly bundled services at the existing payment level that only addresses the base code, and (2) implement the RUC's recommendations.
- Partner with ACC and the AMA RUC to press for the action noted above.

2

ENGAGE WITH CMS

- HRS/ACC/RUC staff will be meeting with CMS on **August 23, 2021**.
- HRS leadership also plans to meet with CMS to discuss the unintended consequences these proposed cuts will have on physicians, hospitals, and patients.

3

ACTIVATE HRS MEMBERS

- Members will be provided additional information about the proposed cuts and encouraged to submit a comment letter to CMS noting the impacts of the Agency's plan on patients and the provision of EP care.

*Comments to CMS must be submitted no later than **September 13, 2021**, by choosing the **COMMENT** button on the [Regulations.gov](https://bit.ly/3jLBwcl) website (<https://bit.ly/3jLBwcl>).*

- Members will also be encouraged to contact their lawmakers to ensure they are aware of the cuts and the impacts these cuts will have on healthcare delivery.
- HRS leadership will identify champions in each region to foster their involvement in engaging Congress and hospital systems.

4

GATHER EXTERNAL SUPPORT

- HRS leadership and champions will work with hospital groups and patient organizations to submit comments to CMS about the cuts' consequences.
- Patients will be asked to send comments to CMS about the improvement in their quality of life since having an AF or SVT ablation.