

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2011

AMA STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF
CMMI COMPREHENSIVE PRIMARY CARE INITIATIVE

Statement attributable to: Peter W. Carmel, M.D.
President, American Medical Association

“The AMA applauds the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) for launching the Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative and taking an important step toward transforming the delivery of health care in our nation. This new initiative is an exciting opportunity that will provide physicians with the resources and data they need to work with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), private health insurers, employers and patients to transform care at the local level.

“We are extremely pleased that this new initiative reflects the components the [AMA recommended \(http://www.ama-assn.org/resources/doc/washington/aco-shared-savings-comment-letter-3june2011.pdf\)](http://www.ama-assn.org/resources/doc/washington/aco-shared-savings-comment-letter-3june2011.pdf) as critical to the success of physician-led new models of care, including flexibility that allows for innovation, upfront financial resources and participation by private health insurers.

“Physicians want to deliver coordinated, cost-effective care that improves patient outcomes, but the current payment system often penalizes the valuable services that make these improvements possible. By providing a monthly care management fee for Medicare patients, CMMI is recognizing the full scope of work done by physician practices to improve the health of their patients. Participation by private health insurers will strengthen the reach and success of the program.

“We look forward to working with CMMI and CMS on additional programs and to ensure all physicians can lead and participate in innovative new models of care.”

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About the American Medical Association (AMA)

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