

**From:** Philip Schuh <pschuh@mssny.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 18, 2016 10:15 AM  
**To:** Fox, Mark; Hamlin, Paul; Hughes, Robert; Latreille Jr, William; McCormack, Leah; Meza III, David; Ostuni, John; Rosenberg, Michael; Unterricht, Sam; Vozza, David; Young, Daniel; Charles Rothberg @ home; Fougner, Arthur; Geraci-Ciardullo, Kira; Kleinman, Andrew; Latreille Jr, William; Litvack, Bonnie; Madejski, Thomas; Maldonado Jr, Joseph; Philip Schuh; Reid, Malcolm; Rothberg, Charles; Sellers, Joseph; Adams, Mark; Bartels, Edward; Cohen, Joshua; Dowling, Frank; Hesson, Robert; Huang, Howard; Kennedy Jr, John; Kenworthy, Charles; Lee, Thomas; Mehta, Parag; Pipia, Paul; Skeivys, Saulius; Sokol, Harold; Viviano, Robert; Vozza, David; Zapata, Luis Carlos  
**Cc:** Liz Dears; Moe Auster; Eunice Skelly; Regina McNally; 'Christina Southard'  
**Subject:** Medicare Payment Differentials Across Outpatient Settings of Care  
**Attachments:** E&C Letter.pdf; 20160212 - Payment Differentials Across Settings White Paper\_FINAL.PDF; PAI news rls-FINAL.DOCX; Upton Pitts Letter on Site Neutral.pdf

Good morning to all: As you may know, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (Section 603) contained provisions regarding the equalization of payments for services provided in newly acquired off campus hospital outpatient departments after January 1, 2017. As a result of that change, the U.S. Committee on Energy and Commerce have been receiving wide ranging feedback on the provision's impact on hospitals beneficiaries and providers. They , therefore, have solicited specific input on these changes from the Health Care Community.

The Physician's Advocacy Institute, which MSSNY is a founding Board member of, actually had been involved in reviewing this specific issue. Last year they engaged the firm of Avalere to do a study on specific Medicare payment differentials for episodes of care across the HOPD and Physician office settings for three services commonly provided in outpatient settings: cardiovascular imaging, colonoscopy and evaluation and management (E&M) service. That report confirmed (through a variety of analysis) that this site of service differential is a huge driver of increased health care spending.

In the attachments, please find the following: A letter to the House Energy and Commerce Committee responding to their request for information (first attachment), which includes the just released Avalere report (which is the second attachment) along with a copy of a planned press release from the PAI on this subject matter.

The last attachment is actually the February 5<sup>th</sup> letter from the Committee soliciting this information.

Enjoy the day, Phil

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