



SOCIETY OF
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Important Medicare Reimbursement Update
(as of Noon EDT, June 22, 2010)

Leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate remain at a stalemate over action to fix the flawed Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula, the underpinning of Medicare physician payment. As you know, effective June 19, 2010, Medicare began processing a 21.3 percent cut in every provider claim paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, due to statutory adjustments mandated under the SGR.

The Senate acted late last week and voted to halt the 21.3 percent cut and approve a 2.2 percent increase in Medicare physician payment through November of this year. However, the House has yet to act and has stated it will not do so until the Senate takes up unrelated legislation deemed as a priority by the House.

This political jockeying only serves to punish Medicare patients and the providers who care for them. Make sure to let your Congressional Representative know how disappointed you are in their lack of fundamental commitment to the Medicare program.

Contact Your U.S. Representative:

- Go to www.house.gov
- In the upper left hand corner, click the "Write Your Representative" icon
- Submit the information requested and click "Contact My Representative"
- You may write a message to your Representative from this contact page, OR
- Call the Washington, DC office of your Representative and ask to speak with the health legislative assistant.

Be sure and let your Representative know the impact that the 21.3 percent cut will have on your patients in terms of access to care, and to your practice and the people you employ. Your voices count most -- please act now!