



SOCIETY OF **CARDIOVASCULAR** COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY

MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT UPDATE

April 16, 2010

Yesterday, the United States Senate finally approved legislation to reinstate Medicare physician fees to 2009 levels, thereby restoring the 21.2 percent fee cut that took effect April 1, 2010, due to Congressional inaction on this important issue. Unfortunately, the extension only runs through May 31, 2010.

Lawmakers in the House and Senate must continue to negotiate on bills to prevent Medicare cuts in the longer term. The next step is reconciling differences on legislation to extend the 2009 fee levels until October 1, 2010. It is clear that much remains to be done to spur Congress to permanently repeal the flawed sustainable growth rate formula (SGR) that currently is the underpinning of Medicare physician payment.

SCCT urges you to call or email the offices of your two United States Senators and your U.S. Representative. Make sure they know that passing long term Medicare physician payment reform is important to you and the Medicare patients you serve. Your voices count most!