

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 9, 2018

Dear Stakeholders:

We recently launched a bipartisan caucus to examine innovative policy ideas that improve the quality of care and lower costs for consumers. As leaders of this new caucus, we are requesting comments and recommendations to guide our efforts.

With the health care industry rapidly transforming from a volume-driven system to one that rewards value and outcomes, it is vital that we maintain this acceleration by encouraging a marketplace of multiple payment models and using lessons learned to improve care for patients. The main focus of the Health Care Innovation Caucus will be to explore and advance successful, innovative payment models as well as the technologies needed to support these models.

To help inform our efforts as we build the caucus, we request your feedback on some or all of the following questions:

Value-Based Provider Payment Reform

- Please describe any value-based payment models that you participate in by payer – Medicare, Medicaid, employer coverage?
 - o Which have been most successful at reducing costs and improving quality and access?
 - o What changes were made in practice management or care delivery as a result of these value based arrangements?
 - o What effect did you observe on patient outcomes?
- What barriers in each of the following areas limit the full potential of innovation in Medicare and Medicaid?
 - o Payment and reimbursement
 - o Policy and regulation
 - o Data and reporting
- How can we develop better outcomes measures that accurately reflect quality, safety, and value without burdening innovation?
- What are examples of successful cross-sector collaboration that has achieved positive health outcomes, patient personalization, and lower costs?
- How have population health, capitation, and direct provider contracting improved patients' health?
- Are there examples cross payer collaborations – such as employer-Medicare or employer-Medicaid – that have achieved promising results?
- What employer sector innovations have had success bending the health care cost curve?
- How can Congress help the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation Center achieve its purpose of developing and testing innovative payment and delivery models?

- What is the ultimate destination for the movement to value in the Medicare program? What should the landscape look like in 2025 and what role does the government play in achieving it?

Value-Based Arrangements

- Please describe any value-based arrangements that you participate in by payer – Medicare, Medicaid, employer coverage?
 - o Which have been most successful at reducing costs?
 - o What changes were made in practice management or care delivery as a result of these value based arrangements?
 - o What effect did you observe on patient outcomes?
- What are some of the barriers to value-based arrangements for drugs, devices, and therapies in Medicare and Medicaid?
- What role should Medicare play in creating value-based arrangements and encouraging manufacturers, payers and providers to take on risk?





Technology and Health IT

- What impact does health IT and data interoperability have on successfully running value-based payment models and contracting? What are some ways to improve interoperability and the sharing of data?
- What technology is needed to integrate physician networks to be able to effectively manage a population's health?
- What new technology exists to lower costs, improve efficiency, or improve the quality of care that isn't already widely-deployed?

We hope to build a successful and collaborative partnership with our stakeholders and appreciate your input. In addition to soliciting comments from stakeholders, the Caucus also hopes to regularly host staff and member level meetings with industry experts, consult Governors and state legislatures, and bring in academic experts. In order to ensure that your feedback is considered, we respectfully ask that you submit your comment letters to InnovationCaucus@mail.house.gov by July 27, 2018.

Thank you for dedicating time to help build a successful bipartisan caucus. We look forward to reviewing your feedback.

Sincerely,

			
Mike Kelly Member of Congress	Ron Kind Member of Congress	Markwayne Mullin Member of Congress	Ami Bera, M.D. Member of Congress