

For Immediate Release
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In case you missed it!

Alliance applauds CMS proposal to expand site-neutral payments

This month, **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** submitted [comments](#) urging the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to finalize a provision in the 2026 Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) [proposed rule](#) that expands site-neutral payments and protects patients from paying hospital prices for doctors' office visits.

"The Alliance strongly supports CMS's proposal to expand site-neutral payments to drug administration services provided in off-campus HOPDs," the comments state, adding, "We believe CMS's proposal to expand site-neutral payments to outpatient drug administration services serves as an important first step toward: (1) **protecting patients** from paying hospital-level prices for outpatient care provided outside of the hospital; and (2) **removing financial incentives driving consolidation** among health care providers." We also **urge Congress to codify this commonsense policy** by passing provisions in the House-passed *Lower Costs More Transparency Act* that expand site-neutral payments to certain outpatient drugs and ensure fair billing practices for care provided by off-campus hospital outpatient departments (HOPDs).

In the letter, we also **voiced our support for more expansive legislative proposals that would increase the number of settings subject to site-neutral payments**, such as the bipartisan [S.2497 Fair Billing Act](#), recently introduced by Senators Maggie Hassan (D-NH) and Roger Marshall (R-KS). We also reiterated our support for MedPAC's recommended volume-based calculation for identifying which outpatient services should be subject to site-neutral payment. "Their recommended list of services for site-neutral payment focus on 'low complexity' outpatient services often provided in non-HOPD settings, which do not necessarily cost more, or require more staff or equipment, in a HOPD setting," the Alliance writes.

The Alliance strongly supports these regulatory and legislative proposals, **which have broad stakeholder support representing physicians**, employers, patient advocacy groups and more, including the Alliance to Fight for Health Care, American Benefits Council, Families USA, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Physicians, Community Oncology Alliance, US Oncology Network, National Restaurant Association, and more.

The **Alliance to Fight for Health Care** is a broad-based coalition comprised of businesses, patient advocates, employer organizations, unions, health care companies, consumer groups and other stakeholders that support employer-provided health coverage. Together, we are working to ensure that employer-provided coverage remains an available and affordable option for working Americans and their families.

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