

## **NARHC Policy Committee**

### **Engaging Members on Policy Issues**

The past year has brought a lot of uncertainty to health care policy. Here is a brief review of health care events since October 2016:

**October 2016:** Polls indicate Hillary Clinton should win presidency which means that the ACA (Affordable Care Act) will be tweaked, improved, and expanded

**November 2016:** Republicans sweep the election and many Washington insiders expect ACA repeal on day one of Trump presidency with a replacement to come later

**February 2017:** Republicans now looking to repeal and replace the ACA at the same time, they hope to pass legislation by the summer

**May 2017:** House passes The American Health Care Act just weeks after their first iteration failed

**July 2017:** Senate fails to pass their version of repeal and replace The Better Care Reconciliation Act

**September 2017:** Senate reignites repeal and replace debate with Graham-Cassidy but that effort falls short

**October 2017:** President Trump ends “CSR” Cost Sharing Reduction payments and signs healthcare executive order

As you can see, we have had a lot of politics and policy to grapple with over the past year. Simultaneously, RHCs had to deal with:

- new emergency preparedness regulations and guidelines;
- an evolving “Care Management” or CCM benefit;
- a frustrating (see: CG Modifier) HCPCS reporting rollout, and;
- confusion over all the “acronym policy” (my term) - MACRA, MIPS, PQRS, APMs, and the QPP.

In order to refine the RHC voice in this growing list of issues, earlier this year, we decided to form a “NARHC Policy Committee.” Our goal was and still is to foster better communication between the NARHC and members on all aspects of policy from lawmaking to rulemaking to guidance. In that spirit, we realized that we should publicize the existence of this committee and its intended role so that members understand that there is a place to voice their thoughts on RHC policy and join the conversation.

Unlike the NARHC Board of Directors, we do not have terms or an election process. The committee is still new and we are shaping it as we go. If anyone wants to learn more about (or even join) the NARHC policy committee, please send me an email (see signature below).

Finally, I would like to thank the following founding NARHC policy committee members for the time and energy they dedicated over the past year: Angie Charlet, Amanda Shelast, Charles James, Dianne Davidson, Glen Beussink, Jennifer O’Riley, and Keith Davis.

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