AAPM Submits Comments to CMS

The AAPM submitted comments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding the 2018 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule. The 2018 CMS proposals have minimal impact to radiation oncology and radiation oncologists may see a 1-2% payment increase next year.

The AAPM supported the AMA Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC)-recommended relative value units (RVUs) for radiation therapy planning codes 77261, 77262 and 77263, and new peri-prostatic implantation of biodegradable material code 55X87. The AAPM opposed the CMS proposed work RVU for new superficial radiation treatment planning and management code GRRR1. CMS did not include medical physics work associated with this procedure. Further, AAPM recommended that the newly proposed service be subject to the AMA Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Editorial Panel and RUC processes.

View the AAPM comment letter here.