

CMS NEWS AND UPDATES

Blake Dirksen, M.S. has been appointed the CMS Hospital Outpatient Payment (HOP) Advisory Panel. His term begins on July 1, 2023 and ends on June 30, 2027.

The HOP Advisory Panel meets annually in August and its role is to review the Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) groups and their associated weights and to advise the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) concerning the clinical integrity of the APC groups and their weighting.

This is a major accomplishment as there has only been one other medical physicist (Michael Mills, Ph.D.) appointed to the HOP Advisory Panel in the past 20 years.

The AAPM has representation on two key CMS Advisory Panels as Michele Ferenci, Ph.D. is a member of the Medicare Evidence Development and Coverage Advisory Committee (MEDCAC).