

Committee and Section Reports

10/18/2024

NYSRS Physics Committee Report (10/18/24)

Executive Summary:

NYS Part 16 Regulatory Update

As part of the Committee's regulatory outreach efforts, we have continued to stay abreast of the NYSDOH's work to update Part 16 of the NY State Sanitary Code. The committee has maintained a strong professional relationship with Alex Damiani, Director of the Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection, and he has kept the Committee abreast on the BERP's efforts to revise Part 16 of the New York Sanitary Code for the past few years. In February of this year, we were informed by Alex that the new regulations would most likely be out for public comment in April.

Armed with this knowledge and given the success that the NYSRS had in building a coalition when NYCDOHMH revised its Article 175 regulations, Dan Long, Physics Committee Chair, organized a series of meetings with leadership of stakeholder societies across the state, including NYSRS, RAMPS, GNYCHPS, UNYAPM, and WNYHPS. Each society agreed to join to make unified comments when the public comment period opened for the new Part 16 regulations, and informed their respective memberships that commenters were needed. A master list of commenters was collected by Dan and five working groups divided by technical expertise were created, each led by a captain (four of whom are members of the NYSRS Physics Committee).

The comment period opened on April 10th, and each working group began generating comments in each of their areas of expertise, with multiple meetings being conducted by Dan and the other captains to ensure the process was moving along in a timely fashion. The coalition was also heavily supported by NYSRS counsel, Justin Pfeiffer, and lobbyist Kayla Bogdanowicz, who assisted Dan in drafting the cover letter for the comments as well as assisting in communications with the NYSDOH. In the end, the coalition generated nearly 200 comments, and each of the five societies' presidents signed the cover letter supporting the comments that were sent to NYSDOH. With assistance from Kayla, Dr. Mark Adams, and Bob Pizzutiello, we were also able to secure a letter of support from MSSNY as well.

A little over a month since the comment period ended on June 10th, Alex Damiani reached out to Dan and the other working group captains to have a series of follow-up meetings to discuss the coalition's comments and lay out the roadmap for the final rule being published. The first was held on July 18th, and the second on August 1st. Alex Damiani indicated that the revised set of regulations incorporating the initial comments should be published for comment this fall. This new comment period will be 45 days and the BERP will only consider comments making any technical corrections to what they have proposed. Once this revised set of regulations is published, Dan will be reaching out to the coalition once again for comments. BERP are hoping for the final rule to be published by year's end, with stakeholder outreach and training to begin in Q1 2025.

NYSRS Physics Outreach to RAMPS

To continue the Committee's efforts to increase medical physicist membership and involvement in NYSRS and ACR, the Committee plans to deliver a presentation for the members of RAMPS, the local chapter of AAPM for New York City, at a future chapter meeting this year.

Informational Items:

None

Discussion Items:

None

Committee Members:

Daniel Long, Chair Dylan DeAngelis, Vice-Chair Bob Pizzutiello Tom Petrone Raja Subramaniam Matthew Pacella

Keywords: Physics, membership, NYS Part 16



NYSRS Executive Committee Meeting: Resident and Fellow Section Report

Committee / Section Name: Resident and Fellows Section

Executive Summary / Accomplishments:

New Secretary/Treasurer of the RFS and Officer Transition:

We would like to welcome Dr. Harsh Shah from Mount Sinai West as the new secretary-treasurer of the RFS. We look forward to working with him in the RFS over the next few years. We are also proud to announce that Dr. Rhianna Rubner from Montefiore/Albert Einstein will transition into the role of RFS President and Dr. Jin Yoon from Columbia/New York Presbyterian will be the RFS Vice President.

Autumn Social:

The 2024 Autumn Social was held on September 12 at Bella Union in Manhattan. This event was co-sponsored with our DEI committee. We had approximately 36 medical students, residents, fellows, and faculty from various New York state institutions attend the event. This event provided an opportunity for trainees from various programs to meet each other and learn more about NYSRS.

ACR Radiology Leadership Institute (RLI) Summit:

Thank you to the NYSRS Foundation for generously sponsoring Mudassir Mumtaz (R3, Mount Sinai) and Esther Zusstone (R4, NYU) to attend the 2024 RLI Summit. This year's summit was held September 5-8 in Boston, MA and was an excellent opportunity to hone leadership skills and network with radiology leaders. The feedback from the residents was very positive and all spoke highly of their experience at the summit.

Support of Communities Crushing Cancer (CCC) Initiative:

The RFS is happy to support the CCC initiative with a \$150 donation. The CCC is a resident-driven initiative to raise awareness about cancer screening across various radiology programs with sponsorship from the ACR Radiology Health Equity Coalition, first piloted in Massachusets with the support of their state society. The RFS donation will support NYP/Weill Cornell Medicine residents to participate in a CCC event on October 30.

ACR RLI Kickstart Your Career Program:

Thank you to the NYSRS Foundation for generously sponsoring 3 residents to participate in the upcoming ACR RLI Kickstart Your Career Program, a program tailored for residents and fellows to learn about early career transitions through pre-recorded lectures and interactive webinars. These residents will also gain access to a one-year mentorship program for personalized guidance as they navigate from residency and fellowship and into the workplace.

Upcoming Events:

2024 Annual Dr. Sara Abramson Radiology Resident Career Workshop:

The 2024 NYSRS RFS Annual Dr. Sara Abramson Radiology Resident Career Workshop will be held virtually on Zoom on November 5 from 6-8pm. Healthcare attorney Justin Pfeiffer will discuss contracts and other legal and financial considerations that are important to radiology trainees as they navigate the job search. Following the lecture, we will have a radiology job market and future outlook panel with representatives across private practice and academics. Many thanks to our panelists for volunteering their time to share their perspectives and advice. Thank you to Drs. Feigin, Lawrence, Mintz, and Bencardino for their assistance in organizing this year's event.

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://weillcornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMrcuyoqDwqGNZAgecYlCzrtsxh2mIfprNb

Committee Members:

Dr. Kimberly Feigin, Faculty Advisor

Dr. Loretta Lawrence, Faculty

Dr. Douglas Mintz, Faculty

Dr. Jenny Bencardino, Faculty

Dr. Rouzbeh Mashayekhi, former RFS

President

Dr. Jason Adleberg

Dr. Emmanuel Jnr Amoateng

Dr. Narain Badhey

Dr. Kyle Berliner

Dr. Robbie Brooks

Dr. Sheila Chandrahas

Dr. Ketan Dayma

Dr. Diljot Dhillon

Dr. Shane Endicott

Dr. Gabriel Felder

Dr. James Frageau

Dr. Yuan Gavin

Dr. Mark Hamilton Dr. Abtin Jafroodifar

Dr. Aman Jaiswal

Dr. Shama Jaswal

Dr. Michael Jin

Dr. Ali Kidwai

Dr. Raksha Kulkarni

Dr. Esther Zusstone, RFS President

Dr. Rhianna Rubner, RFS Vice President

Dr. Jin Yoon, RFS Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. Connie Lu

Dr. Colleen McNally

Dr. Benjamin Morrish Dr. Mudassir Mumtaz

Dr. Ahmed Mussanna

Dr. Adil Omer

Dr. Emmanuel Owusu

Dr. Robert Pacheco

Dr. Nate Patel

Dr. David Payne

Dr. Poojitha Reddy

Dr. Sunny Rishi

Dr. Adrian Rosenberg

Dr. Matthew Sagnelli

Dr. Samia Sayyid

Dr. Rebecca Scalabrino

Dr. Kevin Tan

Dr. Jessa Tunacao

Dr. Colin Woolard

Dr. Matthew Wu

Keywords: Residents, Fellows, RFS, ACR

Commented [1]:



NYSRS Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report October 18, 2024

Executive Summary / Accomplishments:

We had a successful event with RFS.
We are planning a webinar on family leave.
The revised DEI goals are in effect (See below)
Discussion Items:
We had an event with RFS on September 12.

The Massachusetts chapter residents have an initiative; Communities Crushing Cancer.

<u>Communities Crushing Cancer (CCC) | Radiology Health Equity Coalition (radhealthequity.org)</u>

Shama Jaswal from NYP/Cornell is leading the NYSRS version of this. Thank you for your support.

We are planning a webinar for the fall on paid family leave. We would like to promote the AAWR webpage: https://www.aawr.org/Paid-Family/Medical-Leave

Dr. Yee published this piece on the DEI backlash

<u>Diversity, Equity, Inclusion in US Radiology: Current Status and Legislative Trends - Journal of the American College of Radiology (jacr.org)</u>

Dr. Kagetsu is now leading the Allyship Committee of AAWR.

NYSRS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Goals

Promote inclusive membership

Promote inclusive leadership (committee chairs, Board, and Executive Committee within NYSRS

Use society member meetings to focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion issues

Offer inclusive opportunities for leadership and other training

Encourage radiology departments to form diversity, equity, and inclusion committees

Foster inclusive mentorship and sponsorship in radiology

Contributors to Report:
Judy Yee, MD and Nolan Kagetsu, MD
Keywords: Diversity, Health Disparities



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Goals

- 1. Promote inclusive membership in the Society
- 2. Promote inclusive leadership (committee chairs, Board, and Executive Committee within NYSRS
- 3. Use Society Member meetings to focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion issues
- 4. Offer inclusive opportunities for leadership and other training
- 5. Encourage radiology departments to form diversity, equity, and inclusion committees
- 6. Foster inclusive mentorship and sponsorship in radiology



Young and Early-Career Professionals Section Report NYSRS Board of Directors Meeting October 18, 2024

Section Name: Young and Early-Career Professionals Section (YPS)

Executive Summary/Accomplishments:

• Upcoming in December: Personal Finance session, speaker: Sachin Dheer, MD

Informational Items:

- Applications for the Bruce J. Hillman, MD, Fellowship in Scholarly Publishing will open Fall 2024
 - https://www.acr.org/Member-Resources/fellowships/Hillman-Fellowship
- Appreciating the Complexity of RVUs
 - https://www.acr.org/Member-Resources/yps/YPS-News/Appreciatingthe-Complexity-of-RVUs

Discussion Items:

None

Committee Members:

- Dr. Monica Bhattacharjee
- Dr. Christopher Song
- Dr. Justin Holder
- Dr. Shari Jawetz
- Dr. Grace Lo
- Dr. Jessica Rosenblum
- Dr. Naziya Samreen
- Dr. Joel Thompson

Keywords: YPS, radiology advocacy, financial planning

Respectfully submitted, Luke Ginocchio

18, 19 October 2024

NYSRS Economics Committee



ACR-Led Coalition Urges Congressional Action on Medicare Payment

When adjusted for practice cost inflation, Medicare payments have declined 29% from 2001 to 2024.

A coalition of about 120 physician and other healthcare provider organizations led by the American College of Radiology® (ACR®) sent a <u>letter</u> to Congressional leadership Sept. 10, calling for action to blunt a proposed 2.8% reduction to the Medicare conversion factor included in the 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) Proposed Rule. The coalition asks leaders to ensure Congress legislate payments for 2025 and beyond that are adjusted each year with an inflationary update.

The proposed reduction for 2025 and the continual need year-over-year for payment patches makes quite obvious that the Medicare physician payment system is broken.

The coalition is united in stressing the need for a Medicare Economic Index-based inflationary update to the MPFS, to at the very least allow payments to keep pace with the true cost of operating a medical practice.

If you have any questions, please contact <u>Rebecca Spangler</u>, ACR Senior Government Relations Director.

Reforming Medicare payment - What the AMA has done

Achieved consensus across medicine to pursue four pillars of Medicare payment reform:

- 1. Establish an annual inflation-based payment update for Medicare physician payments
- 2. Revise policies and processes used to adjust payments to maintain budget neutrality
- 3. Simplify and improve the clinical relevancy reporting programs under the Merit-based Incentive Payment System
- 4. Extend policies that support practices wanting to transition to value-based payment systems

Secured introduction of <u>H.R. 2474</u> - Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act - to apply an automatic inflation update to Medicare physician payments by tying the Medicare physician fee schedule to the Medicare Economic Index. H.R. 2474 currently has more than 160 bipartisan House cosponsors.

Secured introduction of <u>H.R. 6371</u>- Provider Reimbursement Stability Act of 2023 - to revise budget neutrality policies to mitigate inappropriate payment schedule conversion factor cuts and minimize revenue instability. <u>H.R. 6545</u> - Physician Fee Schedule Update and Improvements Act, bipartisan

legislation that includes key components of H.R. 6371 to reform budget neutrality requirements, passed out of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Secured introduction of $\underline{H.R.5013}$ / $\underline{S.3503}$ - Value in Health Care Act of 2023 - which, among other things, extends the incentive payments for advanced alternative payment models.

Launched a grassroots campaign and website, <u>FixMedicareNow.org</u>, last June that to date has had 312k+ contacts to Congress.

ACR Submits Comment Letters to CY2025 HOPPS and MPFS Proposed Rules

Comment letters were submitted to CMS related to the <u>CY 2025 Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (HOPPS)</u> and the <u>CY2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule</u> proposed rules. The final rules are expected to be released in November, with policies taking effect on January 1, 2025.

MACs Continue to Issue Local Coverage Determinations Expanding Access to CT Perfusion Analysis

Ongoing engagement by the American College of Radiology's CAC network with Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) is resulting in expanded access to CT Perfusion (CTP) Analysis (CPT code 0042T). Physicians will now be reimbursed for CT Perfusion studies that include signs and symptoms for stroke patients even without positive findings.

As the College previously reported, MACs consistently denied coverage for CTP in cases where patients present with stroke-like symptoms but are later found to be negative for CT perfusion abnormalities consistent with a large vessel occlusion on imaging. This all changed when Palmetto GBA updated its <u>local coverage policy</u> effective June 2024. Currently, three of out seven MAC jurisdictions allow coverage, and ACR is working to expand these revisions from coast to coast.

MACs expanded coverage now includes National Government Services, Inc. (NGS) Medicare jurisdiction. NGS released its updated <u>Billing and Coding: Computed Tomography Cerebral Perfusion Analysis (CTP) – A58152</u> to reflect the addition of many of the requested ICD-10 CM codes for 0042T, effective Sept.15.

If you have questions or want more information about local coverage policies and activities, visit the <u>ACR CAC website</u>, or contact <u>Alicia Blakey</u>, ACR Principal Economic Analyst.

CMS Instructs to Now Resubmit Inappropriately Returned Cardiology CPT Code 75580

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently identified a revenue code issue that caused certain claims for diagnostic radiology procedures of the heart (code 75580, Noninvasive estimate of coronary fractional flow reserve (FFR) derived from augmentative software

analysis of the data set from a coronary computed tomography angiography, with interpretation and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional), to incorrectly return to provider.

The issue is now corrected. Claims incorrectly returned with 2024 dates of service may be resubmitted for payment. For more information, see 2024-09-26-MLNC | CMS .

If you have questions, contact <u>Maria Tran</u>, American College of Radiology® Director, Economic Policy.

ACR Urges CMS To Confirm CT Colonography Coverage in MPFS Final Rule

The American College of Radiology submitted <u>comments</u> to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Sept. 6 that address numerous issues and make specific recommendations related to the 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) proposed rule.

CMS estimates — if the rule is implemented as proposed —an overall impact of the proposed changes to radiology, nuclear medicine and radiation oncology to be a neutral 0%, while interventional radiology would see an aggregate decrease of 2% if the provisions within the proposed rule are finalized. These impacts do not take into account the congressionally passed conversion factor updates for 2024 that expire Dec. 31.

ACR expressed strong support for CMS' proposal to cover screening CT colonography for Medicare patients, something the College has advocated for over the past 15 years. The College did, however, express concern with the proposal to subject CT colonography to the Deficit Reduction Act payment cap, which would result in a very low technical component payment rate for the procedure. ACR also asked CMS to fully cover any necessary follow-on colonoscopy without patient cost sharing as part of the complete screening process.

Local Coverage What's New Report

ID	Title	Contractor	Updated On	Effective Date
A52863	Billing and Coding: Pain Management - injection of tendon sheaths, ligaments, ganglion cysts, carpal and tarsal tunnels	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/19/2024	10/01/2024
A57427	Billing and Coding: Transrectal Ultrasound	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/18/2024	10/01/2024

A57452	Billing and Coding: Peripheral Nerve Blocks	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/18/2024	10/01/2024
A56737	Billing and Coding: Cardiac Computed Tomography (CCT) and Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography (CCTA)	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/18/2024	10/01/2024
A52850	Billing and Coding: Cardiac Catheterization and Coronary Angiography	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/18/2024	10/01/2024
A57026	Billing and Coding: Computed Tomographic (CT) Colonography for Diagnostic Uses	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/18/2024	10/01/2024
A58152	Billing and Coding: Computed Tomography Cerebral Perfusion Analysis (CTP)	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/17/2024	09/15/2024
A56781	Billing and Coding: Transthoracic Echocardiography (TTE)	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/17/2024	10/01/2024
A59487	Billing and Coding: Trigger Point Injections (TPI)	National Government Services, Inc. (MAC Part A & B)	09/04/2024	08/01/2024
L35936	Facet Joint Interventions for Pain Management	NGS (MAC Part A & B)	08/07/2024	08/01/2024
A57826	Billing and Coding: Facet Joint Interventions for Pain Management	NGS (MAC Part A & B)	08/07/2024	08/01/2024

Committee Members

Mark J. Adams, MD, MBA, FACR Rohan Biwas, MD, PhD Manjil Chatterji, MD Raja Cheruvu, MD Ketan Dayma, MD Amichai Erdfarb, MD Atul Gupta, MD, FACR Ari Jonesh, MD Joshua Kern, MD Victor Scarmata, MD, FACR Reza Sirous, MD

NYSRS Ethics Committee



Accomplishments:

Code for Interactions with Sponsoring Companies

Topics previously presented by the Ethics Committee:

Presented March 23, 2024 - "Ethical and Medicolegal Issues of AI"

Presented March 23, 2024 - "Ethical Issues in Radiology Reporting and Incidental Findings"

Presented October 15, 2022 - "Release of Reports to Patients, What Radiologists Need to Know and Do"

Presented on April 9, 2022 - "Tactical Advantages for Healthcare Cybersecurity"

Presented on December 15, 2021 in conjunction with Diversity and Inclusion - New York State Radiological Society's Diversity Forum – Transgender Patients & Imaging

Suggested topics to consider for presentation at upcoming meetings:

Unionizing and striking in medicine

Unionizing and striking in medicine can raise ethical concerns about patient care, the patient-physician relationship, and the responsibility of physicians to their patients. Strikes and work actions can harm patients by causing waiting lists and leaving patients without care. Patients may view unionized physicians as less professional or less able to fulfill their obligations. Physicians have a fiduciary responsibility to their patients. Some doctors and nurses believe that striking is incompatible with their obligation to serve the sick. Unions may prioritize physician interests over patient care. For example, increased revenues for physician benefits may divert funds away from patient care. Collective action by physicians can be an ethical issue if physicians are only acting in their own interests.

However, there is no generalizable ethical argument to support excluding healthcare workers from labor rights. Unionization can provide a way for healthcare staff to negotiate over working conditions, pay, and benefits.

Related readings

Doctor and healthcare workers strike: are they ethical or morally justifiable: another view. Curr Opin Anaesthesiol. 2020 Apr;33(2):203-210.

What Should Physicians Consider Prior to Unionizing? https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/what-should-physicians-consider-prior-unionizing/2020-03. AMA Journal of Ethics Mar 2020.

The ethics of taking industrial action as a doctor. https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/ethics/personal-ethics/the-ethics-of-taking-industrial-action-as-a-doctor. BMA Wednesday 21 August 2024.

The justification for strike action in healthcare: A systematic critical interpretive synthesis. Nurset: 2022 Aug; 29(5): 1152–1173.

Direct and Indirect Ethical Concerns of Physician Burnout

Are burned-out physicians "impaired?" If yes, are there legal or OPMC implications? Who is responsible for corrective measures, Physician, Employers, shared responsibility?

Ethical Considerations for an Expert Witness

An Overview of the ACR Committee on Ethics: From Hospital Contracts to Expert Witness Testimony

J Am Coll Radiol 2005;2:424-427

When Does Expert Witness Testimony Constitute a Violation of the ACR Code of Ethics?

J Am Coll Radiol 2006;3:252-258

Ethical Concerns Regarding the Treatment of Those Refusing Vaccination

Vaccine Mandates Covid-19 Vaccine Ethics

Dr Arthur Caplan is an ethicist at NYU Langone. He is Professor of Bioethics in the Department of Population Health at NYU Langone and has been writing and speaking a fair amount in the media regarding ethical issues related to COVID. Here is a recent presentation at Lehigh University.

https://www2.lehigh.edu/news/renowned-medical-ethicist-arthur-caplan-to-deliver-lecture-in-ethics

Corona Virus Ethics

https://cbhd.org/content/coronavirus-vaccine-ethics

Coronavirus Ethics and Policy Insights and Resources

https://bioethics.jhu.edu/research-and-outreach/covid-19-bioethics-expert-insights/

Cybersecurity (from the perspective of what additional ethical questions does lack of cybersecurity pose)

Ethical dimensions of telemedicine/teleradiology

Communicating with Patients and Families about Errors and Adverse Events

Stephen D. Brown, M.D.

Boston Children's Hospital Department of Radiology 300 Longwood Avenue Boston, MA 02115

Sharing and Selling Images

Sharing and Selling Images: Ethical and Regulatory Considerations for Radiologists J Am Coll Radiol 2021; 18:298-304.

Boutique Imaging

Additional Resources

Ethical dimensions of artificial intelligence in radiology (presented March 23, 2024)

Al in medicine needs to be carefully deployed to counter bias – and not entrench it. Ryan Levi, Dan Gorenstein

https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2023/06/06/1180314219/artificial-intelligence-racial-bias-health-care

Ethics of Artificial Intelligence in Radiology: Summary of the Joint European and North American Multisociety Statement. J. Raymond Geis, Adrian P. Brady, Carol C. Wu, Jack Spencer, Erik Ranschaert, Jacob L. Jaremko, Steve G. Langer, Andrea Borondy Kitts, Judy Birch, William F. Shields, Robert van den Hoven van Genderen, Elmar Kotter, Judy Wawira Gichoya, ...

https://pubs.rsna.org/doi/full/10.1148/radiol.2019191586

Artificial Intelligence in Radiology—Ethical Considerations. Adrian P. Brady and Emanuele Neri https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7235856/

Hackensack Meridian Health Doctor, Bioethicist Publishes Surgery Decision-making Piece in New England Journal of Medicine

https://www.hmsom.org/2022/10/07/hackensack-meridian-health-doctor-bioethicist-publishes-surgery-decision-making-piece-in-new-england-journal-of-medicine/

Please keep those suggestions coming.

Respectfully Submitted

Mark J. Adams, MD, MBA, FACR David Axelrod, MD Shabnam Fidvi, MD Rona Orentlicher Fine, MD Betsy Jacobs, MD Amita Kamath, MD Jiyon Lee, MD, FSBI, FACR Catherine Maldjian, MD Elizabeth Maltin, MD, FACR Douglas N. Mintz, MD FACR Bill Schloss, MD Peter Millock