

Statement for the Record American College of Physicians Hearing before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health "Checking-In on CMMI: Assessing the Transition to Value-Based Care" June 13, 2024

The American College of Physicians (ACP) is grateful for the opportunity to submit this statement for the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee of Health's hearing, "*Checking-In on CMMI: Assessing the Transition to Value-Based Care.*" We appreciate Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Eshoo for your interest in finding cost-effective bipartisan solutions to further transition our health care system to one that prioritizes value and high-quality care. The College strongly supports the transition to value-based payment and the role that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) plays in designing, testing, and implementing new payment models that move health care towards this goal. ACP has been appreciative of the Innovation Center's investment in primary care through several demonstration pilots that ACP supports. We look forward to a productive discussion on thoughtful policy solutions to stabilize and improve the primary care physician payment system and create a more affordable, s



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The College has long advocated for increased investment in primary care to ensure that patients have access to preventative and continuous comprehensive care. As internal medicine physicians who make up 24% of the physician workforce in this country, we play a <u>role</u> in preventive health by helping to reduce the prevalence of chronic diseases, which improves health outcomes. Not only are we uniquely qualified and positioned to manage chronic illnesses, but we are also trained to identify risk-factors that can lead to such illnesses. We can effectively encourage patients towards preventive measures, such as increasing their physical activity and eating healthier. Our role can be supported by innovative payment models that would provide primary care clinicians with the financial support, tools, and resources to meet our patients' health goals and social needs – helping to improve population health outcomes.

ACP appreciates CMMI's focus on advancing primary care through the testing and implementation of several primary care focused APMs, including the following models:

- Making Care Primary (MCP)

• The MCP Model will launch in July 2024 in eight states and will include many features intended to facilitate an accessible on-ramp for primary care physicians who do not have prior experience in a value-based payment model. The MCP model includes elements designed to promote health equity, which ACP has long championed, including through our policy <u>paper</u>, *Reforming Physician Payments to Achieve Greater Equity and Value in Health Care*. ACP is eager to see physicians begin participating in the MCP model later this year, and how it impacts patient care.

Primary Care First (PCF)

o The PCF Model was launched in 2021 and is a voluntary, multi-payer, five-



PTAC's role in advising the Innovation Center on APMs and believes that