



CMS Board Update: Advancing physician priorities

From the 2027 work plan to health plan accountability and physician-led care, your CMS Board is turning member input into action — and your voice helps strengthen what comes next.

Sept. 2026

Dear Colleague:

Your CMS Board of Directors met during the CMS Annual Meeting in Vail to focus on the issues shaping the future of medicine in Colorado — including preparations for the 2027 legislative session, growing concerns about unfair health plan practices, and the importance of protecting physician-led, patient-centered care.

Looking ahead: 2027 work plan

The Board approved the 2027 CMS work plan, which moves CMS into the second year of our 2026-2028 strategic plan with a continued focus on advocacy wins, deeper physician engagement, and sustainable growth. With input from members and leaders, we will continue:

- Physician-led advocacy during the 2027 legislative session, including efforts to address unfair health plan practices, protect peer review, defend patient coverage and sustainable payment, and oppose unsafe scope expansions.
- Expanded engagement through CME, resident programming, medical student leadership development and opportunities for physicians to connect around advocacy and career satisfaction.
- Work to strengthen public trust in physicians through the “Your Care is at Our Core” campaign and collaboration with the Colorado Health Policy Forum.

Standing up to unfair health plan practices

One of the most significant discussions focused on the growing burden that unfair health plan practices place on physicians and patients. CMS is preparing a comprehensive response to insurer tactics that members have told us make it harder for physicians to care for patients and sustain their practices, including:

- Downcoding and payment denials
- Delayed payments and claw backs
- Administrative barriers that interfere with patient care
- Statutory gaps that leave physicians without adequate recourse

The Board reaffirmed that physicians deserve fair treatment when they provide care in good faith and according to their contractual obligations. CMS will continue working with physicians, specialty societies, legislators, the AMA and other state medical societies to hold health plans accountable.

Physician-led care must remain at the center

The Board voted to oppose ballot initiative 110, the Protect Children from Irreversible Sex Change Surgery Act, which will be on the November ballot and could have significant implications for Colorado’s health care system. CMS members hold diverse political views but share a core principle: medical decisions belong in the exam room.

CMS remains committed to defending physician-led, patient-centered care and ensuring clinical decisions are guided by medical expertise, science and the unique needs of each patient.

Honoring service and welcoming new leadership

The Board recognized Brittany Carver, DO, Rhonda Parker, DO, Lynn Parry, MD, and Kim Warner, MD, whose Board service concluded with this meeting, and thanked them for their leadership, time and commitment to organized medicine.

The Board also welcomed new physician leaders, including Kelly McAleese, MD, District IX, and Allison Kelley, Medical Student Component, whose perspectives will help carry CMS’s work forward.

As the presidency transitions from me, Brigitta Robinson, MD, FACS, to Sean Pauzauskie, MD, CMS remains focused on advocating for physicians, supporting patients and protecting the future of medicine in Colorado.

Thank you for your membership and for the care you provide every day. Together, we will ensure Colorado physicians continue to have a strong voice in the decisions shaping health care. It has been an honor to serve as your president.

Sincerely,

Brigitta Robinson, MD, FACS
CMS Immediate Past President
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We had a fantastic Colorado Medical Society Annual Meeting! Watch for more photos and a full report in future CMS communications, and make plans to join us for a future event!

