

Policy Landscape of Patient Navigation

March 6, 2024

CMS Physician Fee Schedule



Reimbursement for Patient Navigation included in CY24 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule!

- Codes created to allow for Medicare reimbursement for “Principal Illness Navigation” services (**nonclinical PN**)
 - G0023 for PIN services by a certified or trained auxiliary personnel under the direction of a physician or other practitioner, including a patient navigator or certified peer specialist, for 60 minutes per calendar month per beneficiary
 - G0024 for an additional 30 minutes of PIN services per calendar month per beneficiary
 - These are limited to services that practitioners would only provide during active cancer treatment and do not include screening.
- ACS CAN advocated for finalization of this rule
 - Led letter with 59 partner organizations joining in support
- Clear commitment from Administration and Cancer Moonshot program to support cancer patients and caregivers through a sustainable reimbursement strategy

Resources to learn more

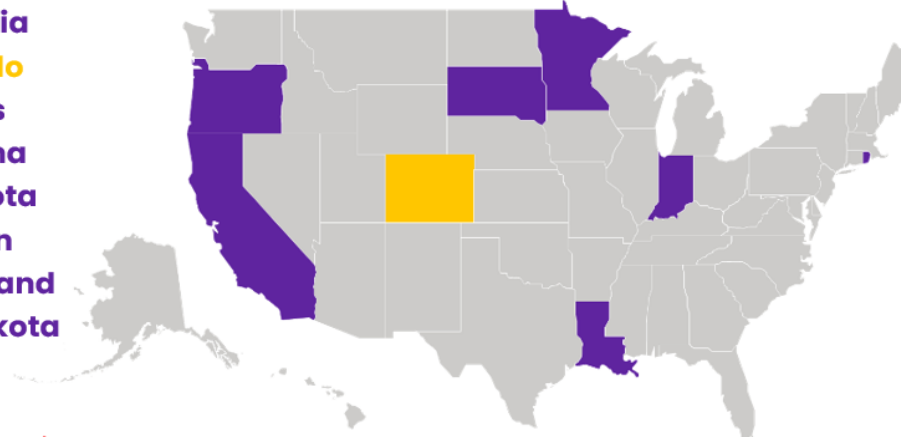
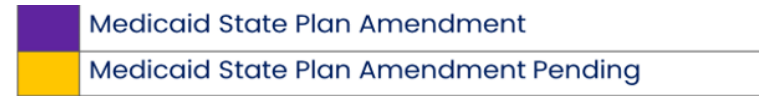
- [ACS CAN + partner letter](#)
- [ACS CAN second letter](#)
- [CMS final rule](#)

Increasing Access to Patient Navigation Services

Current Reimbursement Landscape

Patient navigation is still absent or limited in many cancer programs and hospital settings due to cost concerns and lack of clinical reimbursement. However, some states currently allow Medicaid payment for services provided by CHWs through State Plan Amendments.

- California
- Colorado
- Illinois
- Louisiana
- Minnesota
- Oregon
- Rhode Island
- South Dakota



Current State: Patchwork coverage depending on state, not continuous throughout cancer journey.

Goal: Coverage of patient navigation across the cancer continuum and across all payors.

Clinical Trials: In some cases, access to clinical trials is facilitated through patient navigation but is not universally provided.



Public Policy Options



State

- **Medicaid Reimbursement for Community Health Workers (nonclinical)**
 - *Pathway: Legislation and/or state plan amendment*
- **State Appropriations**
 - *Pathway: Legislatively appropriated funds*

Federal

- **Patient Navigation Assistance Act**
 - *Requires state Medicaid programs to cover PN services for enrollees*
- **Appropriations Request**
 - *Funding to the National Academy of Sciences to provide roadmap of reimbursement policy pathways to expand access to sustainable patient navigation services*



Thank You!