

News Release
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NAACOS Statement on CMS's Health Affairs Forefront Blog

Attributed to Clif Gaus, Sc.D., President and CEO of the National Association of ACOs

Leaders at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) this week published a [Health Affairs Forefront Blog](#) reiterating their vision for a stronger Medicare. Among the goals outlined was to leverage accountable care models to create more affordable, higher quality care. This accentuates the CMS Innovation Center's recent [Strategy Refresh](#) to have every Medicare beneficiary in a relationship with a provider accountable for their quality and total cost of care by 2030.

NAACOS supports these CMS goals, including bringing more patients into accountable care models. [Data are clear](#) that ACOs help lower Medicare's rate of spending and improve quality of care. Supporting ACOs, including increasing incentives for participation and offering more tools to improve care, is fundamental to building a stronger Medicare. Last year, NAACOS [outlined numerous](#) ways CMS can advance these policies, and we stand ready to help CMS implement these ideas. Additionally, ACOs remain well positioned to advance health equity, another administrative priority, given their accountability to patients' total cost of care. NAACOS published [separate position](#) papers last year offering recommendations on ways to leverage ACOs to advance health equity. We thank CMS for its leadership on these important issues.

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About NAACOS. The National Association of ACOs (NAACOS) represents more than 12 million beneficiary lives through hundreds of organizations participating in population health-focused payment and delivery models in Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial insurance. Models include the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP), Next Generation ACOs, and alternative payment models supported by a myriad of commercial health plans and Medicare Advantage. NAACOS is a member-led and member-owned nonprofit organization that works to improve quality of care, outcomes, and healthcare cost efficiency.