

Subject: Cardiac Rehab Bill

October 21, 2015

Geetha Raghuvver, MBBS, FACC (graghuvver@cmh.edu)

At least 2 of the 3 congressional staffers we met and a congressperson (Rep. Vicki Hartzler) were surprised that the docs supported expansion of cardiac rehab services. We reiterated that ACC supported optimal care provided by any CV team member and was fully behind this bill. I think the ACC PAC staff could perhaps drive this point further on the hill so the lawmakers are sure of where ACC and the docs stand as this bill comes to voting.

October 21, 2015

Gilead Lancaster, MD, FACC (Gilead.lancaster@bpthosp.org)

We had a similar experience with Senator Chris Murphy, who seemed quite incredulous that doctors would support this. It was an opportunity to reinforce that the ACC supports a team oriented approach to promote better patient care and increased patient access to a member of HELP.

October 21, 2015

Eileen Handberg, ANP-BC, FACC (Eileen.handberg@medicine.ufl.edu)

Perhaps this is an opportunity for all of us to look critically at our practices and look at all services provided to patients and see if there are other areas where supervision billing could be expanded to optimize the utilization of the Team so that our cardiologists are optimally deployed to do what they do best and others can't do. Then provide this information to the Advocacy group for potential targeting on the Hill.

October 21, 2015

Srinivas Murali, MBBS, ACC (smurali@wpahs.org)

We got similar feedback from Congressional staffer for Rep. Lou Barletta.

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Richard Kovacs, MD, FACC (rikovacs@iu.edu)

Why doesn't someone write an Op-Ed for the WSJ or NYT?

October 22, 2015

Norman Lepor, MD, FACC (norman.lepor@gmail.com)

We had the same experience especially with Congressman Sherman from California. I explained that as cardiologists we are happy to have scope of practice commensurate with scope of experience and training. We do not feel threatened by this at all but this support for this legislation should not be looked at as our supporting the concept of having mid-levels determine their own scope of practice and independent practice for the sake of patient care.

October 23, 2015

Janet Wyman, DNP, AACC (jwyman1@hfhs.org)

As co-chair of the CVT Section Leadership Council, I am so pleased that the College is supportive of this advocacy issue. We hope to work closely with the Board of Governors to identify other barriers to team-based care - an activity supported by the recent ACC Health Policy Statement. If you have not had a chance to review the health policy statement, I have attached a copy, for your reference. In it you will find the College's position on Advanced Practice Providers as members of the team. Beautifully written as the College always does.

Thank you again for your support of the Cardiac Rehab Bill and your future support of legislations to improve access and eliminate barriers to CV care!