



COLLEGE of AMERICAN
PATHOLOGISTS

Helping Pathologists Succeed in an Era of Evolving Health Care

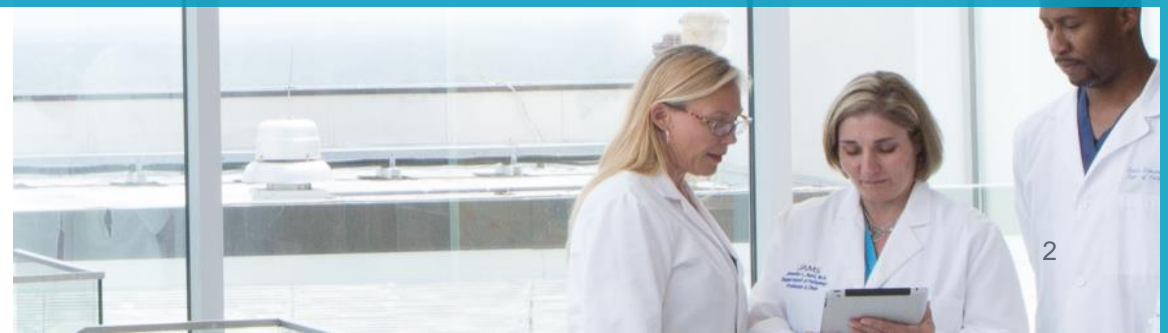
2019 Tri-State Pathology Conference

R. Bruce Williams, MD, FCAP
CAP Immediate Past President

October 5, 2019

How the CAP Is Helping You

- **Influence Public Policy in Washington, DC, and Your State**
- **Advance Quality for Laboratories and the Practice of Medicine**
- **Maintain Strength and Reach of Pathology**



Influence Public Policy

Working on behalf of pathologists to address regulatory, legislative, and political challenges as health care evolves

Top Issues on Federal Surprise Billing Legislation

- The CAP opposes adverse payment formulas to pathologists.
- We support proposals that include an independent dispute resolution (IDR) process.
 - House legislation includes IDR process, but threshold to participate is too high for pathologists.
 - Senate legislation doesn't include IDR process.
- We are strongly lobbying Congress on legislation to oppose adverse payment formulas and support IDR:
 - **1,500** pathologists responded to recent CAP grassroots alerts.
 - **12,000-plus** messages sent to Congress from pathologists.
 - **474** representatives and senators in Congress contacted.

State Advocacy on Out-of-Network Billing

Health Plan Network Adequacy

- We work to pass state laws that have pathologists included in health plan network adequacy requirements.
- CAP-led declaration with 11 national patient advocacy groups supports tougher health plan network adequacy requirements.
- Louisiana is one of three states with network adequacy law.

Out-of-Network Payment

- Lead a coalition of medical specialties fighting to ensure payment to out-of-network physicians is based on market value of physician services.

Surprise Billing May Influence Payment Cuts for Pathology Services

- **Anthem BC/BS announced drastic rates reductions for pathology services across 14 states in 2019.**
- **Since April, in a series of communications, the CAP has pressed Anthem to reverse fee schedule cuts to pathologists.**
- **The CAP articulated concerns regarding the financial viability of practices under drastically reduced pay rates.**
- **Affected pathologists are advised by Anthem to contact their regional network managers with any concerns.**

Proposed 2020 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule

- In 2020: No overall decrease/increase to pathology payment compared to the 2019 fee schedule.
- Due to the CAP's advocacy, there's a 1% overall increase for independent laboratories due to refinements of practice expense direct costs.
- In 2021, CMS warns pathology payment could decrease by 8% due to shifting Medicare payments toward primary care physicians.
 - The CAP opposes this policy.
 - The CAP will work to mitigate and alleviate the impact of these payment reductions.

Medicare's Efforts to Shift Reimbursement to Primary Care

- Over the last decade, health system changes have sought to invest more in primary care.
- An evaluation/management (E/M) revaluation in 2007 resulted in:
 - Overall cut of -7% to pathology services.
 - At the time, the CAP mitigated even greater cuts.
- In 2018, the CAP opposed E/M changes and CMS delayed action to gather more stakeholder input.
- The CAP worked with the AMA on an E/M coding proposal; CMS accepted it but also went further to boost primary care.

CMS Cuts Payment to Specialists, Shifts Money to Primary Care Providers

Specialists hit hard under the proposal for 2021:

- Thoracic surgery -7%
- Emergency -7%
- Anesthesiology -7%
- Cardiac Surgery -8%
- Pathology -8%
- Radiology -8%
- Ophthalmology -10%

Providers benefitting from the 2021 proposal:

- Internists 4%
- Nurse practitioners 8%
- General practice 8%
- Family practice 12%
- Hematology/Oncology 12%
- Rheumatology 15%
- Endocrinology 16%

Advocacy on E/M Proposal Going Forward

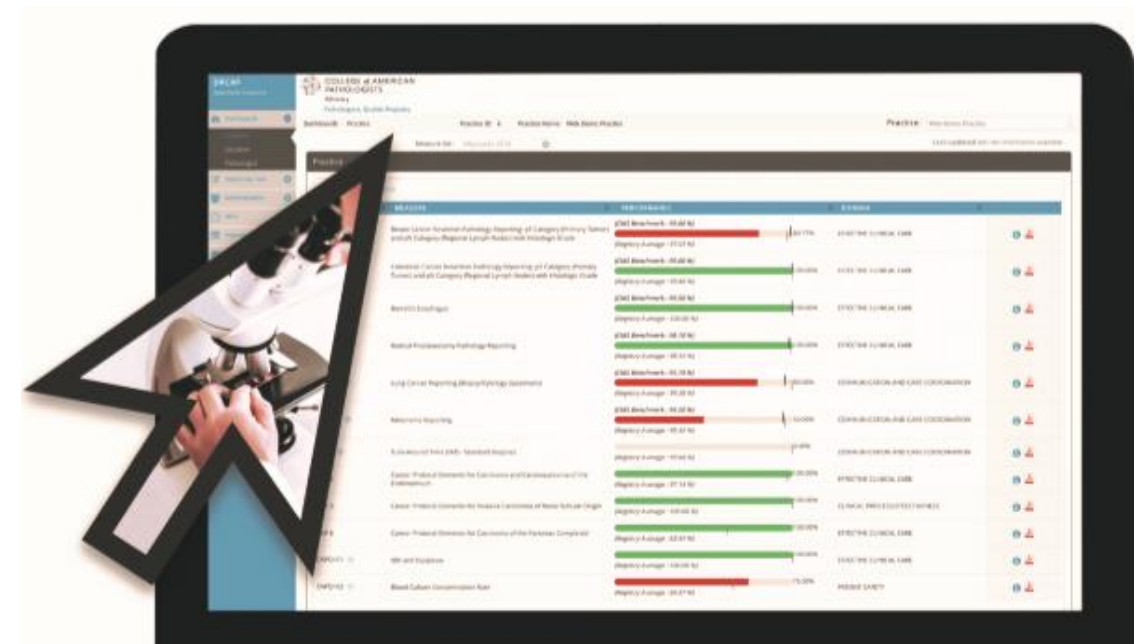
- The CAP opposes these cuts and the redistribution of pathology reimbursement to other specialties.
- CAP experts pushed CMS officials to rescind this proposal on Sept. 9.
- CAP has urged the CMS to abandon its approach.
- The CAP's advocacy is engaging with the CMS, American Medical Association, and other stakeholders to mitigate the impact on pathologists.

Proposed Cytopathology Changes for 2020

- The CMS targeted cytopathology codes for revaluation (88141, G0141, G0124, P3001).
- The CAP and the AMA recommended we maintain work values for these codes.
- The CMS has disagreed and wants to cut work values by 38%.
- In opposition to the cuts, the CAP urged the CMS to accept the recommendations and advocated for the value of these services.
- The CMS took our advice into consideration; it will make final determination in November.

Pathologists Quality Registry

- **More than 1,000 pathologists** have enrolled in the registry from practices across the country.
- For a decade, pathologists have used CAP measures to earn millions of dollars in Medicare bonuses and stop penalties.
- The CAP continues to demonstrate leadership and advocacy strength on behalf of pathologists.
- Our registry allows you to demonstrate quality and provides benchmarks to improve your practice.



Advance Quality

Advancing quality of care for patients by ensuring the best practices in pathology and laboratory medicine through our laboratory quality solutions

Our Commitment to Laboratory Quality



~700

*proficiency testing programs
across 16 disciplines*

The CAP's laboratory quality solutions, initiated in 1947, currently have customers in more than 100 countries, accrediting more than 8,000 laboratories and providing proficiency testing to more than 22,000 laboratory worldwide.

Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines

Ensure Highest Standards of Care

The CAP has published 15 guidelines.

Recently published:

- Quantitative Image Analysis of HER2 IHC for Breast Cancer
- Update: HER2 Testing in Breast Cancer
- Update: Molecular Testing Guideline for Selection of Lung Cancer Patients for Treatment With Targeted Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors
- Human Papillomavirus Testing in Head and Neck Carcinomas

Publishing Soon:

- Update to IHC Testing of ER/PgR in Breast Cancer

Open comment periods in progress:

- Diagnostic Testing for Diffuse Gliomas

Pathologists can take the lead by implementing CAP guidelines at their institutions and by participating in open comment periods.

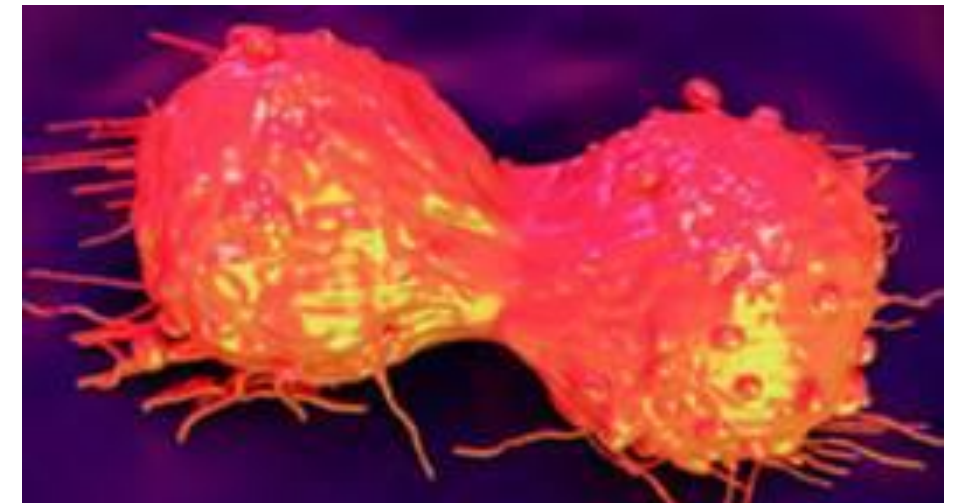
Visit cap.org > **Protocols and Guidelines**

Cancer Reporting Tools Help Pathologists Stay Current and Relevant

CAP Cancer Protocols, CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (CAP eCC), and CAP electronic Forms and Reporting Module (CAP eFRM)

Serving as a resource and reference for complete reporting of malignant tumors, including current American Joint Committee on Cancer staging

- **Ease burden of staying current with the latest cancer protocol updates**
- **Help to ensure compliance to accreditation standards**
- **Provide information for “big data”**
- **Deliver confidence that your practice remains compliant with accreditation standards**



Maintain Strength

Growing your skills and expertise to strengthen the reach and impact of pathology

Test Ordering Program Carves out Value for Pathologists on the Health Care Team

Complimentary, members-only resource—

Modules provide information on test selection, ordering, and interpretation to effect change in evidence-based manner.

- 5, 10-Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) **NEW**
- Vitamin D **NEW**
- Free Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) Testing Repetitive
- Constitutional Genetic Testing
- Urine Myoglobin Testing
- Celiac Disease Testing
- Thyroid disorder **NEW**
- Tick-borne infections **NEW**
- BRAF Testing for Colorectal Cancer
- BNP or NT-proBNP
- Cardiac Marker Testing Practices
- Hep C Virus Infection Testing
- Red Blood Cell Folate Testing

Pathologist Leadership Summit

- **A new CAP “members-only” meeting event focusing on helping CAP members take action to:**
 - Advance and advocacy for the specialty
 - Increase pathologists’ presence and influence on Capitol Hill
 - Advance your leadership skillset to the next level
- **Designed specifically for today’s CAP leaders and those who aspire to be future leaders.**
- **Meeting Date:** Saturday, May 2–Tuesday, May 5, 2020
- **Location:** Grand Hyatt Washington, Washington, DC

An Integrated Meeting Where Pathology Leaders Convene

Saturday,
May 2, 2020

House of Delegates

Content:

- Strengthening the specialty
- Hot Topics impacting CAP members
- Insights on advocacy activities
- LIVE Candidates Forum
- **All CAP members are welcome**

Sunday,
May 3, 2020

Education Programs for Pathology Leaders

Content:

- 16 courses in 4 key areas
and CME:
- 1) New and Emerging Technology
 - 2) Practice Leadership
 - 3) Communicating Value
 - 4) State Path Society Leadership

Monday,
May 4, 2020

Federal Policy Agenda

Content:

- CAP's legislative and regulatory agenda
- Health policy discussions
- Keynote speakers throughout the day
- Hill Day preparation

Tuesday,
May 5, 2020

Hill Day

Content:

- Face-to-face meetings with members of Congress and their staff - and advocating for positive change for patients and the specialty.

Go to: <http://Pathologistsleadershipsummit.org>

The CAP Is Your Professional Organization

For Advocacy

For Quality

For Your Career



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