News Releases:

*February 19- **CMS Launches Podcast to Reach Stakeholders via Modern Platform.** CMS launched “**CMS: Beyond the Policy,**” a new podcast highlighting updates and changes to policies and programs in an easily accessible and conversational format. The podcast was created as a new method to explain the agency’s policies and programs.

*February 19- **New Resources Available on the CMS Promoting Interoperability Programs Website.** CMS is currently updating the Promoting Interoperability Programs website to include new resources for the 2019 program year. Updates include **2019 Program Requirements for Medicare** and **Fiscal Year 2019 Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) and Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program Overview Fact Sheet.**

*February 15- **CMS proposes Coverage with Evidence Development for Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cell Therapy.** CMS proposed to cover FDA-approved CAR T-cell therapy, which is a new form of cancer therapy that uses a patient’s own immune system to fight the disease, under “Coverage with Evidence Development” (CED).

*February 14- **HHS Launches innovative payment model with new treatment and transport options to more appropriately and effectively meet beneficiaries’ emergency needs.** Supporting ambulance triage options aims to allow beneficiaries to receive care at the right time and place.

*February 14- **Emergency Triage, Treat and Transport (ET3) Model.** The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation’s (Innovation Center) Emergency Triage, Treat, and Transport (ET3) Model is a voluntary, five-year payment model that will provide greater flexibility to ambulance care teams to address emergency health care needs of Medicare beneficiaries following a 911 call.

*February 14- **Texas Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income Compliance.** CMCS issued a compliance action to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).

*February 11- **CMS Advances Interoperability & Patient Access to Health Data through New Proposals.** CMS proposed policy changes supporting its MyHealthEData initiative to improve
patient access and advance electronic data exchange and care coordination throughout the healthcare system. The Interoperability and Patient Access Proposed Rule outlines opportunities to make patient data more useful and transferable through open, secure, standardized, and machine-readable formats while reducing restrictive burdens on healthcare providers.

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**Upcoming Partner Interest Events:**

* February 28 - Special Open Door Forum: Medical Documentation Requirement Lookup Service 2pm-3pm ET. The purpose of this SODF to educate the public about a new initiative underway to develop a Medicare Fee for Service (FFS) Documentation Requirement Lookup Service prototype. Also, to allow physicians, suppliers, IT and Electronic Health Record (EHR) Developers and Vendors, and/or all other interested parties to provide feedback to CMS and inform how interested parties can get involved or track the progress of this initiative. For more information and to access the slide presentation for the SODF, please visit: [http://go.cms.gov/MedicareRequirementsLookup](http://go.cms.gov/MedicareRequirementsLookup). If you wish to participate, dial: 1-800 837-1935 & Conference ID: 8278138.

For more information please email partnership@cms.hhs.gov