

**COUNCIL ON MEDICAL SERVICE
2008 WORK PLAN (JUNE - NOVEMBER 2008)
REPORTS TO THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

REPORT	TITLE	ACTION REQUESTED	SOURCE	INITIAL DISCUSSION	DRAFT REPORT
1	Medicaid Long Term Care Financing	Study alternative financing mechanisms for Medicaid long-term care.	Self-Initiated	January 2008	August 2008
2	Acceptance of TRICARE Health Insurance	Study and report on issues regarding TRICARE in light of the increased numbers of new veterans and their families.	Sub. Res. 714 (I-07)	June 2008	August 2008
3	Payment for Biologic and Pharmacologic Agents	Study the inability of practicing physicians to obtain payment (including drugs and their managerial acquisition costs) for biologics and pharmacologic agents at the rates intended by Congress.	Amended Res. 721 (I-07)	June 2008	August 2008
4	Emerging Medicare Physician Payment System Methodologies	Study alternatives to the SGR for determining physician payment. Present potential strategies for implementing a new payment system, including a discussion of gain-sharing and bundled payments.	Self-Initiated Adopted Res. 112 (A-08) Referred Res. 110 (A-08)	March 2008	August 2008
5	Comparative Effectiveness Research	As a follow-up to CMS Report 8 (A-07), develop a report on comparative effectiveness including options for promoting comparative effectiveness research, disseminating information, and eliciting behavior change.	Self-Initiated	June 2008	August 2008
6	Improving the Medicare Economic Index	As preparation for exploring an alternative Medicare payment system, analyze the role of the MEI in determining physician payment rates, and the accuracy of the MEI as measure of changes in physician practice costs.	Self-Initiated	June 2008	August 2008
7	Tax Treatment of Health Savings Accounts	Study the tax treatment of HSA contributions, earnings and withdrawals, both currently and upon enactment of legislation to replace the existing employee income tax exclusion for employer-sponsored health insurance with tax credits for individuals and families, as referenced in AMA Policy H-165.852[2]	Amended CMS Rep. 8 (A-08)	August 2008	August 2008
8	Tax Deductibility of Employer Contributions Toward Employee Health Insurance and Health Care Expenses	Study the effect of changing the tax system from the deductibility of healthcare "expenses" to the deductibility of "insurance premiums" on self-insured employers.	Amended CMS Rep. 8 (A-08)	August 2008	August 2008