

# ACP

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS  
INTERNAL MEDICINE | *Doctors for Adults*®

May 17, 2008

William L. Rich, III, MD, FACS  
Chairman  
Relative Value Scale Update Committee  
American Medical Association  
515 N. State St  
Chicago IL 60610

Dear Dr. Rich:

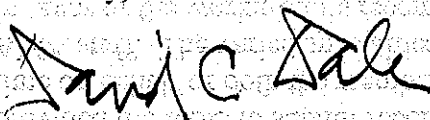
The American College of Physicians (ACP) representing more than 125,000 physicians specializing in internal medicine and medical students, would like to thank the Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) for its extraordinary work in recommending work values and practice expense inputs for the care management codes that will be recorded and paid under the Medicare medical home demonstration project.

The very short timeframe that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provided the RUC to submit recommendations required an enormous commitment of time on behalf of both the members of the workgroup assigned to lead the task and the AMA staff. The varied specialties represented on the workgroup and the unanimous vote in favor of the workgroup's recommendations demonstrate that the commitment to explore the medical home concept is common across all specialties of medicine.

ACP believes that the medical home will have a transformative impact on the practice of medicine in the United States and that the results of the Medicare medical home demonstration project will provide considerable evidence on the effectiveness of the model. The RUC's work on this project is an important step in defining and quantifying the work that is associated with this new model of medical care.

ACP thanks the members of the RUC and the medical home workgroup for their collegiality, constructive input, and dedication during this intense process. The product produced, while lengthy, does not begin to show the hours of preparation that preceded it. ACP thanks the RUC for this important work.

Sincerely,



David Dale, MD, FACP  
President