



The RUC: Physicians and Health Care Professionals Ensuring Fair Valuation of Medical Services

What is the RUC?

The American Medical Association (AMA)/Specialty Society RVS Update Committee (RUC) is a group of volunteer physicians and other health care professionals that provides the federal government with recommendations on the resources needed for medical procedures and services.

These recommendations are informed by input from thousands of health care professionals, and they help ensure patient access to medical innovation by incorporating real-world, front-line perspectives into payment decisions.



What is the AMA's role?

The **AMA** created the RUC in 1991 to share clinical expertise and ensure medical services are appropriately valued. As a **neutral convener**, the AMA listens, encourages participation, and includes diverse perspectives in the decision-making process.



Who makes up the RUC?

- **32 volunteer members**
- **300 advisors**
- Representing **100+ specialties and health care professions**
- Input from **100,000+ surveyed physicians and other health care professionals annually**



How does the RUC work?

Using their first-hand experience in patient care, the RUC evaluates the resources needed for medical procedures and services. Recommendations are based on data from practicing clinicians about:

- **Time, intensity (effort, skill, and stress) required**
- **Practice cost inputs** (i.e., clinical staff, medical supplies, and equipment)



How are RUC recommendations used?

The RUC provides its expertise **at no cost** to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).



CMS considers RUC **recommendations**, along with other data, to develop relative values for medical services.



These values are subject to **rulemaking and public comment** before implementation.



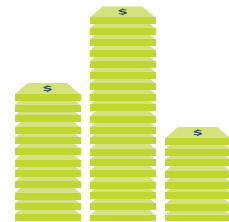
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RUC meetings per year



3,000+

Potentially misvalued services
reexamined to date



\$5+ billion

Redistributed from review
of misvalued services



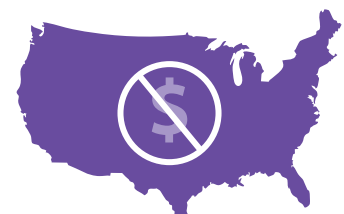
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Of minutes and
recommendations publicly
available on the AMA website



30+ years

Trusted by the government
and health care community



\$0

Cost to taxpayers

Why the RUC Matters

The clinical expertise of physicians and health care professionals is essential to determining the resources required for effective patient care. The RUC helps drive continuous innovation, expand health care access, and ensure primary care, care management, and preventive services are properly recognized.