

Issues that keep private practice cardiologists up at night...

- Imaging cuts that have reduced cardiology's Medicare testing revenue by up to 12 percent or more
- Changes to CMS's practice expense component
- The flawed Sustainable Growth Rate formula Medicare uses to reimburse physicians
- The legislative fight to preserve in-office imaging to keep strong the physician-patient relationship and ensure testing in the most appropriate setting
- Pay-for-Performance mandates
- Malpractice reform
- Specialty hospitals/physician ownership rights

Losing these battles will have a significant impact on how cardiologists practice today and their ability to provide the best care, in the best place, for their patients. And rather than keep our fingers crossed, we've decided to take action.

The Cardiology Advocacy Alliance is a nonprofit business league that represents the interests of more than 4,500 cardiologists in the United States, including members of MedAxiom and the Cardiology Leadership Alliance.

The Alliance provides national leadership by offering positive influence on the development of legislation, policies and evolving reimbursement methodologies that impact the quality of care and access to services of cardiovascular patients, as well as the stability of cardiovascular group practice.

CAA's 2007-08 priorities include:

- A two-year delay of the imaging cuts included in the Deficit Reduction Act
- Working with CMS to ensure that practice expense fee changes are based on accurate data
- Replacing the SGR as the methodology by which Medicare reimburses physicians
- Retaining the right of physicians to provide in-office imaging services to their patients
- Strengthening our national lobbying network
- Positioning the Alliance as a resource for Congress, the ACC, CSCA and others
- Assisting members in creating relationships with their legislators

cardiologycaa.com

How to join

Joining the Cardiology Advocacy Alliance is easy and inexpensive -- only \$250 per physician. Please contact CAA Executive Director Margo Burrage 734.878.2108, or mburrage@cardiologycaa.com.



CARDIOLOGY ADVOCACY ALLIANCE

Cardiology Advocacy Alliance Board of Directors

Ann Honeycutt • President

Executive Director, Virginia Cardiovascular Specialists (35 physicians)

Cathie Biga • Secretary/Treasurer

Cardiovascular Management of Illinois (representing Cardiovascular Associates, 19 physicians, and West Suburban Cardiologists, 25 physicians)

Suzette Jaskie • VP, Communications

Executive Director, West Michigan Heart (32 physicians)

Stuart Winston, DO • VP, Medical Affairs

Michigan Heart and Vascular Institute (35 physicians)

James Palazzo • Past President

Executive Vice President, MedAxiom (formerly CEO, Iowa Heart Center)

John Lutz • Board member

CEO, Albany Associates in Cardiology, a division of Prime Care Physicians, PLLC (29 physicians)

Matthew Phillips, MD • Board member

Austin Heart (42 physicians)

Stuart Seides, MD • Board member

Cardiovascular Associates, PC (26 physicians)

Mark Victor, MD • Board member

Cardiology Consultants of Philadelphia (84 physicians)

Margo Burrage • Board Member, Ex-Officio

Administrator, Cardiology Advocacy Alliance

Patrick White • Board Member, Ex-Officio

President, MedAxiom (represents 4,500 physicians)

CAA Lobbyist: Marshall Brachman
Marshall A. Brachman, LLC, Washington, DC