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CHIME Advocacy for CHIME LTPAC Members

Overarching Advocacy

CHIME continues to push policymakers to recognize that exchanging patient information across to care continuum must involve all healthcare providers and long-term / post-acute (LTPAC) providers play a pivotal role. Our 2018 advocacy around these efforts are highlighted below.

Federal

- **Stronger collaboration Needed:** CHIME advocated for a stronger collaboration among long-term and post-acute care providers, acute hospitals, vendors and CMS in our [letter to CMS on their proposed Home Health Rule](#). We said it's essential to bring stakeholders together before issuing any new data exchange requirements and standards.
- **Standards and cost barriers remain:** In our [letter](#) to CMS on the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) proposed rule we argued:
 - The development of standards for data exchange and identifying what information is important / necessary for electronic exchange, and the LTPAC sector deserves a spot at the table, as they have a different and valuable perspective to add.
 - CHIME also points out that LTPAC providers were not eligible to participate in Medicare and Medicaid Promoting Interoperability Programs when financial incentives were available. This puts them at a significant cost disadvantage as they attempt to set up interfaces and connect with multiple HIEs.
- **Stark EHR exception needed:** In our [letter](#) to CMS in response to their RFI on [Stark](#) CHIME advocated for extending and expanding the electronic health record (EHR) exception to assist LTPAC providers who often lag behind ambulatory and hospital acute care providers due to cost barriers and from being left out of the EHR incentive programs.
- **TEFCA should include LTPAC:** In our comment letter to ONC in [response](#) to the draft [Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement](#) CHIME advocated for LTPAC to be included in this framework.

Congressional

- **LTPAC important to healthcare innovation:** In our response to House of Representatives Healthcare [Innovation Caucus RFI](#) we asked Congress engage with the LTPAC community when seeking standards for data exchange, as they are often left out of the conversation.
- **Patient identity solution will help LTPAC:** In our [letter to Congressional Appropriators on Patient ID Language in Labor-HHS Report](#) CHIME recognized LTPAC as one of the many care settings harmed by the absence of a consistent approach to accurately identifying patients.

Member Engagement

CHIME is a collaborative member of the [Long-Term and Post-Acute Care \(LTPAC\) Health IT Summit](#) put on by LeadingAge back in June. CHIME board member, Rusty Yeager, SVP & CIO, Encompass Health participated in a panel on cybersecurity and Mari Savickis, CHIME VP, Federal Affairs, participated on a panel on policy. Also, in attendance were several CHIME members.