

Urgent
 Action
Required
 For Your
Information

APA Practice Organization Action Alert

Date: June 14, 2010

To: SPTA and Division Federal Advocacy Coordinators
APAGS Coordinators

From: Marilyn Richmond, J.D., Assistant Executive Director for Government Relations
American Psychological Association Practice Organization

Cc: Katherine Nordal, Ph.D., Executive Director for Professional Practice
SPTA Executive Directors
SPTA Directors of Professional Affairs
CAPP

Re: **CMS Delays SGR Cut Three More Days**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have instructed Medicare Administrative Carriers (MACs) to hold claims for three more days, postponing the processing of claims at a lower rate until Friday, June 18. Congress continues to work on legislation that would include a provision to block the 21.3% Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) cut *retroactive* to June 1, 2010 and *through* the end of 2011. The measure would provide a 2.2% update to provider payments for the rest of 2010 and an additional 1% for 2011.

Psychologists and their patients need Congress to act NOW. Your legislators need to hear from you that Congress must immediately halt the 21.3% cut to Medicare provider payments and should permanently replace the flawed SGR formula.

Targets:

All U.S. Senators and Representatives

Action:

[Click here](#) to urge your Senators and Representative
to immediately halt the SGR cut

If you are not able to reach the Legislative Action Center from the above link, please paste this address in your browser: <http://capwiz.com/apapractice/issues/alert/?alertid=14871116>.

Grassroots feedback is extremely important to our advocacy efforts, so we would very much appreciate it if you would e-mail (jcook@apa.org) or fax (202-336-5797) us any substantive responses (other than auto-responses) you receive from your Senators or Representative.

Message:

I am writing as a constituent and psychologist to urge you to immediately halt the 21.3% Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate cut retroactive to June 1 and work to permanently replace the flawed SGR formula as soon as possible. This cut will have severe consequences for patient access to quality mental health care and must be addressed immediately. Thank you for your time and consideration.