

News Release  
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**NAACOS Statement on the One-Year Delay  
of the Rural-Focused CHART Model's ACO Transformation Track**

*Attributed to Clif Gaus, Sc.D., President and CEO of the National Association of ACOs*

The National Association of ACOs (NAACOS) is disappointed today to see a delay in the ACO track of the [CHART Model](#). We look forward to working with the CMS Innovation Center to expand the eligibility and scale of a new ACO loan program for rural and small ACOs. CHART's precursor, the ACO Investment Model, was one of the [most successful](#) Innovation Center models, creating a path toward alternative payment model participation for providers who would otherwise struggle to get there. NAACOS previously expressed support for CHART but [commented](#) to CMS that it would help too few providers and urged the agency to allow for broader participation. A new innovative CHART 2.0 option for ACOs in the Medicare Shared Savings Program would help foster the growth of new ACOs in underserved communities, improve beneficiary care and create savings for the Medicare program. Today's announcement is a short-term setback but also provides an opportunity to work with CMS to grow participation in this type of accountable care investment model as well as population health-focused payment models.

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**About NAACOS.** The National Association of ACOs (NAACOS) represents more than 12 million beneficiary lives through hundreds of organizations participating in population health-focused payment and delivery models in Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial insurance. Models include the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP), Next Generation ACOs, and alternative payment models supported by a myriad of commercial health plans and Medicare Advantage. NAACOS is a member-led and member-owned nonprofit organization that works to improve quality of care, outcomes, and healthcare cost efficiency.