

[DATE]

The Honorable _____
_____ House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Member of Congress,

Thank you for your leadership on medical research and healthcare issues. I write you today as a constituent as an advocate for the American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine (AANEM) to ask for your support as the electrodiagnostic (EDX) medicine community engages the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to ensure optimal patient care in this area.

[Briefly, in 3 – 5 sentences, explain your interest in or personal experience with this issue]

Recently, CMS significantly reduced reimbursement rates for needle electromyography and nerve conduction studies in an effort to curb fraud and abuse in EDX medicine. Bad actors operating in this area often have little to no overhead and reimbursement cuts are felt most severely by physicians working in rural and medically underserved communities. AANEM and other stakeholders would like to hold a constructive dialogue with CMS to collaboratively identify an appropriate path forward that better addresses issues related to fraud and abuse.

EDX medicine is crucial in the diagnosis and treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, and some neuropathies. Many conditions in this space are serious and progressive, and patients have a strong need to be diagnosed as quickly and accurately as possible. The community shares an interest in working with CMS to ultimately ensure that fraud and abuse are mitigated while experienced and compassionate physicians working in this space have the opportunity to deliver optimal care to their patients.

At this time, physician and patient representatives are just beginning a dialogue with CMS in this regard. I wanted to make you aware of this important effort and its potential impact on healthcare in your district should the EDX medicine community ever ask you for assistance as this process moves forward.

Please consider the AANEM a resource if you would like any additional information. Thank you for your time and your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,
[Name]
[Address]