## ACUPUNCTURIST PROVIDER STATUS UNDER MEDICARE OPERATIONS AND ADVOCACY ROADMAP

Now and Ongoing Current Begin After Meeting a Specific Metric **STAGE 1** STAGE 6 Organizational Support Targeted, High-Level Advocacy **STAGE 2 STAGE 3** Finalize Bill Language Secure Bipartisan Support for the Bill L.Ac. STAGE 4 **STAGE 7** Communications Bill Introduction and Official Effort Launch L.Ac. **STAGE 5 STAGE 8** Gather Support / High-Level and Frame Argument Grassroots Advocacy L.Ac. L.Ac. Stage 10 Stage 9 Long-Term Congressional Publicity and and Public Advocacy Efforts Communications

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# **STAGE 1**ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT



#### STAKEHOLDER LIST (NCCAOM, ASA)

- Establish List of Professional Stakeholder Groups.
  - Leaders
  - Regions
  - Contact Information
  - ASA, NCCAOM Liaison
- Develop a Strategic-Outreach Plan to Ensure Stakeholder Alignment and Establish an Organizational Framework Agreement that NCCAOM, ASA will Lead.







# **STAGE 2**FINALIZE BILL LANGUAGE



#### DRAFT BILL LANGUAGE (NCCAOM, ASA, Congressional Sponsor)

- Develop Bill Language that Provides the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to Recognize Acupuncturists as Medicare Providers.
- Send Draft Language to Stakeholder Groups for Feedback.
- Work with Our Congressional Champion to Finalize Bill Language.





### SECURE STRATEGIC SUPPORT FOR THE BILL



#### **REPUBLICAN CO-SPONSOR** (NCCAOM, ASA, Bill Sponsors)

- Secure a House Republican Champion.
- Reach Out to Members of House of Representatives Committees with Jurisdiction Over CMS: Energy and Commerce Committee and the Ways and Means Committee.
- Secure Democrat and Republican Co-Sponsors.



## STAGE 4 COMMUNICATIONS



#### CONGRESSIONAL PACKET DEVELOPMENT (NCCAOM, ASA)

- Issue Brief Outlining the Benefits of Medicare Recognition.
- Bill Talking Points.
- Compile Acupuncture Data Addressing Cost-effectiveness, Quality, Access, Effectiveness.
- Develop Acupuncture in Biomedical Document that Includes Effectiveness Compared to Other Treatments, Role in Combating Opioid Use, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and U.S. Department of Defense Acupuncture Recognition.
- Workforce Document that Outlines Acupuncture Workforce Numbers, Geographic Map, Licensure Requirements, Education, Training.

### GATHER SUPPORT / FRAME ARGUMENT



#### **GATHER SUPPORTING RESEARCH** (NCCAOM, ASA)

- Perform Environmental Scan to Identify Strong Evidence Areas for Acupuncture and Areas with Evidence Gaps.
- Develop Short Pilot Studies to Help Fill Gaps (long term).
- Consider U.S.-Based Systematic Evidence Review.



# **STAGE 6**TARGETED, HIGH-LEVEL ADVOCACY



#### ORIGINAL CO-SPONSOR OUTREACH (NCCAOM, ASA)

- Outreach and Meetings with W&M, E&C Members.
- Outreach to NCCAOM Diplomates and ASA State Associations and Members About the Bill and Ways Individuals Can Help Support the Bill.



## **STAGE 7**OFFICIAL ADVOCACY LAUNCH



ADVOCACY LAUNCH (Congressional Champions, NCCAOM, ASA, Licensed Acupuncturists)

- Organize Grassroots and Media Efforts to Support the Bill.
- Organize Acupuncturist Advocacy Campaigns to Increase Awareness of the Bill and Gather More Bipartisan Co-Sponsors.



#### HIGH-LEVEL AND GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY



#### ADVOCACY - GRASSROOTS AND HIGH LEVEL (NCCAOM, ASA, Licensed Acupuncturists)

- Develop Grassroots Advocacy Campaign.
  - Training Webinar
  - Grassroots Toolkit
  - NCCAOM, ASA Town Halls
- Identify and Confirm Organizational Support.
  - Identify and Engage Non-acupuncture Healthcare Practitioner Groups that Support the Acupuncture Profession and Medicare Recognition for Acupuncturists.
  - Identify and Organize Patients and Patient-advocate Groups.
  - Identify Coalitions and Collaboratives.
- Plan for Incremental Communications with Profession for Updates and Feedback.
- Develop Organization and Coalition Support List; Develop Outreach Strategy.
- Communicate Advocacy Plans and Engage Groups within Profession.
  - Establish and Work with Regional Champions to Advocate and Promote the Bill.



#### **PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATIONS**



#### **PUBLICITY** (NCCAOM, ASA, Licensed Acupuncturists)

- Provide Regular Updates to Profession About the Bill's Progress, Impact of Advocacy Efforts, Upcoming Advocacy Efforts.
- Develop Educational Materials About Impact of Medicare Recognition, Medicare Enrollment, Medicare Compliance, etc. for the Acupuncture Profession.
- Develop Medicare Recognition Pages on the NCCAOM and ASA Websites that Provide Advocacy Updates, Background Information, Supporting Studies, and Other Resource Documents.
- Compile, Develop, and Publicize Case Studies Demonstrating Acupuncture's Effectiveness.

#### LONG-TERM CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC ADVOCACY EFFORTS



## CONTINUE TO SECURE DEMOCRAT AND REPUBLICAN CO-SPONSORS (NCCAOM, ASA, Licensed Acupuncturists, Congressional Champions)

#### PREPARE A COST-EFFECCTIVENESS CASE FOR CONGRESSIONAL ASSESSMENT

- Prepare Data Demonstrating Acupuncture Cost-effectiveness for Congressional offices and Congressional Budget Office Estimate of the Bill's Cost.
- Continue to Support Bill as New Information Arrives.
  - New Data
  - Additional Supporters, Endorsements
  - Additional CMS Coverage Decisions

