

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **America's Physician Groups Welcomes Valinda Rutledge as Vice President of Federal Affairs**

**WASHINGTON, DC**— America's Physician Groups (APG), the leading association in the country representing physician organizations practicing capitated, coordinated care, today announced the appointment of Ms. Valinda Rutledge to Vice President of Federal Affairs. In this position, Ms. Rutledge will lead APG's federal legislative and regulatory activities in Washington, DC, and will report to Don Crane, APG President and CEO.

"Valinda has a unique blend of policy, advocacy, and leadership experience in the healthcare field," said Crane. "This includes serving as CEO of multiple hospital and health systems as well as holding leadership positions at CMS's Innovation Center. She is a great fit for APG and the members we serve."

Previously, Ms. Rutledge worked at the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Innovation (CMMI), where she helped build the Innovation Center from its startup phase and managed the design and launch of several of the Center's models. Before joining CMS, Ms. Rutledge served as CEO of several systems within Bon Secours and SSM Health, as well as CaroMont Health in Gastonia, North Carolina where she led the development of a 210-day bundled knee payment arrangement between CaroMont and North Carolina's largest health insurer, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina.

"Now is the perfect time to join APG," said Ms. Rutledge. "Our physician organizations are leaders in providing high-quality, innovative, and responsible care that also controls costs. I'm excited to be part of this growing movement in healthcare."

Ms. Rutledge received the 2013 Becker's Healthcare Leadership Award, which is given to the top 30 individuals in the nation who demonstrate leadership and impact to the industry on a national level. She is frequently sought as a national speaker in the area of payment, clinical innovation, and population health.

### **About America's Physician Groups**

*America's Physician Groups is the nation's leading professional association for accountable physician groups, composed of approximately 300 medical groups and independent practice associations (IPAs) across 44 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. America's Physician Groups' members operate under a capitated, coordinated care model that is the essence of the nation's health reform movement from volume to value. Our [Colloquium 2018](#) will be held October 10-12, 2018 in Washington, DC. Learn more at [www.apg.org](http://www.apg.org).*

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