

# Narrow Provider Networks Need More Work, ACP Says

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The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has dramatically expanded access to health insurance coverage, but overly narrow provider networks assembled by insurers limit patient access to clinicians, the American College of Physicians (ACP) said today in its annual report on the state of the nation's healthcare.

The society representing internal medicine practitioners proposed an extensive list of provider-network reforms that would affect not only federally qualified health plans (QHPs) offered through state marketplaces, or exchanges, under the ACA, but also those in the Medicare Advantage program. Some Medicare Advantage plans across the country have been dropping physicians from their networks without telling them the reason.

Health insurers justify narrow provider networks as their attempt to contract with only high-quality, low-



uses to set physician compensation. The measure would replace the SGR with a scheme that shifts reimbursement from fee-for-service to pay-for-performance.

The ACP's report on the state of the nation's healthcare is available on the group's [Web site](#).