



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: **Stephanie Cameron** (202) 220-3700  
scameron@medpac.gov

## MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP

**Washington, DC, June 14, 2023**—Today, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) announces that Executive Director James E. Mathews, Ph.D., will leave the agency at the end of August. Dr. Mathews has led MedPAC since November of 2017, and previously served as its Deputy Director for nearly a decade.

“It has been an honor and privilege to have worked with the MedPAC staff and commissioners for the last sixteen years,” Mathews said. “I hope my leadership of what is unquestionably the best analytic staff in Washington has reinforced MedPAC’s reputation for being a trusted source of nonpartisan analysis and policy advice on the complex issues facing the Medicare program.”

During his tenure as Executive Director, Mathews testified before multiple Congressional committees on a variety of topics, including oversight of Medicare Advantage plans, Medicare payment for prescription drugs, physician payment reform, and rural beneficiaries’ access to emergency care. MedPAC’s analytic work under Mathews’ leadership informed major pieces of Medicare legislation, including the restructuring of the Part D prescription drug benefit in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, and the Rural Emergency Hospital designation established by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021. Dr. Mathews was named among *Modern Healthcare*’s 100 most influential people in health care in 2021 and 2022.

“MedPAC and the country are much better off because of his service. Jim has been unbelievably dedicated to the Commission and has been an exceptional leader,” notes MedPAC Chair, Michael Chernew, Ph.D. “It has been a privilege to work with, and learn from, him. I will miss him on a personal and professional level.” Dr. Mathews has not announced his immediate plans, but he intends to remain active in health policy.

Dr. Chernew has appointed Paul Masi, Unit Chief of the Health Systems and Medicare Cost Estimates Unit at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), as MedPAC’s next Executive Director. “I am extremely excited that Paul has agreed to take on this critical leadership role,” Chernew said. “He brings exceptional substantive and analytic experience, along with deep knowledge of the policy issues MedPAC faces. I look forward to working with him, together with the staff and commissioners, to support Congress in meeting the challenges facing Medicare in the years to come.”

Masi has 15 years of experience in health policy. In his current role, Masi leads an analytic team in producing baseline projections of federal spending, publishing cost estimates, and providing technical assistance on legislation under consideration by the Congress. Masi previously served as MedPAC’s Assistant Director from 2017 to 2019. He holds a master’s degree in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley.

# # #

*The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission is an independent, nonpartisan Congressional agency that provides policy and technical advice to the Congress on issues affecting the Medicare program. The Commission’s goal is to achieve a Medicare program that ensures beneficiary access to high-quality care, pays health care providers and health plans fairly, rewards efficiency and quality, and spends tax dollars responsibly.*