

## INFORMATION ALERT

The U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) has initiated a study on the acquisition cost of radiopharmaceuticals in the hospital outpatient setting that will impact your future radiopharmaceutical Medicare payment rates. This study was mandated by the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) of 2003, and is to be accomplished by a nationwide hospital survey.

Pilot surveys have been sent initially to at least fifty hospitals. Some of you may have already received this survey, and others may receive it this fall. You should be aware that these surveys may not be addressed to hospital Nuclear Medicine Departments, but instead to your hospital's CEO or other administrative officer. Please inform your hospital administration to be on the look out for this survey and how important it is that they forward it to you.

We strongly encourage all who receive the survey to participate in a thoughtful and complete manner. The survey is time intensive to complete, but it will direct future hospital reimbursement rates for radiopharmaceuticals utilized in hospital outpatient settings.

If you have any questions or desire additional information, please contact ASNC Director, Health Policy Jim Boxall on (301) 493-2366 or via email [boxall@asnc.org](mailto:boxall@asnc.org)