

# No Spoiler Alert Here: Technology Top CMS Priority

Last week, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Seema Verma sat down with American Hospital Association (AHA) President and CEO Rick Pollack for a discussion about CMS' 2018 priorities. What followed was an enlightening conversation centering on innovation and responsiveness to patients – without overburdening providers with bureaucratic responsibilities, especially small, rural offices.

Luckily, the whole thing is [available here](#), on the AHA website. But since you may not have the time to watch the webcast—though we suggest you do—here are our takeaways and some key quotes from Verma:

- \* “CMS is conscious of working with providers to reduce regulatory burden. “CMS puts out 11,000 pages of regulations every year. I’m not sure how the healthcare system has been dealing with this over the years, but we are dedicated to trying to address that issue.”
- \* “We need to prepare for a new generation of beneficiaries. Especially in our Medicare program where we know this is a more tech savvy population that’s coming into the program.”
- \* “It’s up to IT to provide the innovative solutions the next generation will expect. How can we prepare and how can we give them the tools that they’re going to expect – they’re going to expect more of an Amazon experience. Our focus is going to be on both modernizing the Medicare and the Medicaid program.”
- \* The specific needs of rural providers will not be ignored. I understand they might just need more time or more technical assistance around implementations, or some things just may not make sense in a rural area. We’re trying to have as much

flexibility as possible to accommodate both rural and urban providers.”

Did you catch it? At the center is one main theme—technology. It is going to be how we address regulatory burden, modernize our systems, and expand rural health. And we’re very excited about our role in these priorities. Stay tuned for future posts on CNSI’s plans to contribute.

The screenshot shows a video player interface. On the left, a video frame shows two people, a man and a woman, seated at a table with microphones, likely a panel discussion. The man is wearing a suit and tie, and the woman is wearing a dark jacket. They are in front of an American flag and a flag of the American Hospital Association. The video player has a progress bar at the bottom showing 06:38 and a volume icon. On the right, a document titled "AHA Regulatory Priorities" is displayed. The document has a blue header with the AHA logo and the title. Below the header, there is a section titled "Regulatory Relief Actions" with a table of actions. The table has two columns: "Action" and "Description". The actions listed are: "Regulatory relief actions", "Regulatory relief actions", "Regulatory relief actions", and "Regulatory relief actions". The document also includes a section titled "Table 1. Actions to be Taken by CMS" and a section titled "Regulatory Relief Actions" with a table of actions.

**AHA Regulatory Priorities**

**Regulatory Relief Actions**

Action	Description
Regulatory relief actions	Regulatory relief actions
Regulatory relief actions	Regulatory relief actions
Regulatory relief actions	Regulatory relief actions
Regulatory relief actions	Regulatory relief actions

