

Know the Facts, Defend Your Worth

- ❑ The percentages for high acuity patients, across all payer classes are increasing (+3.92%).
- ❑ Percentages of the highest acuities for Medicare patients alone are dramatically increasing (+10.83%).
- ❑ Emergency Department volume is increasing significantly (+32%) from 1996 to 2006.
- ❑ The number of EDs is declining (4,019 in 1996 to 3,833 in 2006).
- ❑ EM voluntarily discloses government recommended quality indices (PQRI), at one of the highest rates for all of Medicine.
- ❑ EM voluntarily reports on the condition of its own Specialty (*National Report Card*).
- ❑ Average indemnity payments for malpractice settlements are declining for EM (*Risk Management Review, 2008*)
- ❑ EM is actively involved in numerous campaigns fostering public safety, and health measures.
- ❑ In Pennsylvania alone, each emergency physician provides well over \$100,000 in uncompensated care each year
- ❑ 2009 highest CMS carrier reimbursement for 99285-\$238.08.
- ❑ April 2009 GAO study shows the average length of stay for Medicare patients is 242 minutes, or 4.03 hours, thereby resulting in \$59.08/hours payment to ED physicians.