

## MedPAC Public Meeting – November 2009

### Mandated report to the Congress on comparing quality in Medicare Advantage and traditional fee-for-service Medicare

#### Recommendations – Voted on November 6, 2009

##### **Recommendation 1**

The Secretary should define EHR “meaningful use” criteria such that all qualifying EHRs can collect and report the data needed to compute a comprehensive set of process and outcome measures consistent with these recommendations. Qualifying EHRs should have the capacity to include and report patient demographic data, such as race, ethnicity, and language preference.

##### **Recommendation 2**

The Secretary should collect, calculate and report quality measurement results in MA at the level of the geographic units the Commission has recommended for MA payments, and calculate FFS quality results for purposes of comparing MA and FFS using the same geographic units.

##### **Recommendation 3**

The Secretary should have all health plan types in MA report on the same basis, including reporting measures based on medical record review, and the Congress should remove the statutory exceptions for PPOs and PFFS plans with respect to such reporting.

##### **Recommendation 4**

The Secretary should collect and report the same survey-based data that are collected in MA through the Health Outcomes Survey for the Medicare FFS population unless the Secretary determines that such data cannot meaningfully differentiate quality among MA plans and between FFS and MA.

##### **Recommendation 5**

The Secretary should expeditiously publish specifications for forthcoming MA plan encounter data submissions to obtain the data needed to calculate patient outcome measures.

##### **Recommendation 6**

The Secretary should calculate FFS results for HEDIS administrative-only measures for those measures that the Secretary determines can provide a valid comparison of the two sectors.

##### **Recommendation 7**

The Secretary should develop and report on additional quality measures for MA plan and MA-to-FFS comparisons that address gaps in current quality measures.

##### **Recommendation 8**

The Congress should provide the Secretary with sufficient resources to implement the Commission’s recommendations in this report.