

## **The Medicare Advantage program**

**ISSUE:** This session discusses the state of the Medicare Advantage (MA) program in terms of plan availability, enrollment, payments, benefits, and the performance of plans on quality indicators.

**KEY POINTS:** We discuss the continued growth in enrollment in MA plans and the composition of enrollment. We examine the level of payments and benchmarks in relation to fee-for-service expenditure levels, and we discuss the value of extra benefits offered by MA plans. We examine plan performance on various quality measures, including the CMS star rating system.

**ACTION:** Commissioners should provide comments on the initial analysis and any additional guidance.

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