

## **Access to hospital services**

**ISSUE:** As part of our framework for evaluating payment adequacy, we examine Medicare beneficiaries' access to care.

**KEY POINTS:** We will discuss changes in hospital openings, closures, service offerings, employment levels and other indicators of hospital capacity. We will also discuss Medicare Select plans and the degree to which certain hospitals are willing to take discounts to Medicare rates to attract additional Medicare beneficiaries.

**ACTION:** Commissioners will discuss hospital capacity and beneficiary access to care.

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