

## **Encouraging greater provider accountability around an inpatient admission**

**ISSUE:** This paper explores policy ideas that seek to address the misalignment of incentives in Medicare payment for services surrounding an inpatient hospital stay. The Commission has repeatedly acknowledged that the FFS payment system fails to encourage providers to engage in efficiency-improving activities across payment silos. One possible place to start changing incentives is in the way Medicare pays for care around an inpatient hospitalization

**KEY POINTS:** To spur commissioner discussion, this paper considers bundling hospital and physician payments for care delivered during the admission and adjusting payment for potentially avoidable readmissions.

**ACTION:** Commissioners should provide feedback on these options and comment on other aspects of content and tone of this paper.

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