

Skilled nursing facility services: assessing payment adequacy and updating payments

ISSUE: Are Medicare payments for skilled nursing facility (SNF) care adequate? How should Medicare's payments for fiscal year 2010 be updated?

KEY POINTS: We examine six factors to determine whether payments for SNF care in fiscal year 2009 are adequate:

- Access to care,
- Supply of providers,
- Volume of services,
- Quality of care,
- Access to capital, and
- Payments and costs.

We then present the Chairman's draft recommendation regarding the update for 2010 payment rates.

ACTION: Commissioners should review the findings in preparation for discussing and voting on the Chairman's draft recommendation.

STAFF CONTACT: Carol Carter (202-220-3700)