MEDPAC Medicare Payment Advisory Commission

MEETING BRIEF

December 15–16, 2011

Assessing payment adequacy: Hospice services

ISSUE: Are Medicare's payments for hospice services adequate? How should payments be changed in 2013?

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will examine information about the adequacy of current aggregate hospice payments. We will look at information about:

- Access to care: supply of providers and volume of services
- Quality of care
- Providers' access to capital
- Medicare payments and providers' costs in 2009.

ACTION: Commissioners should review the findings presented in the attached briefing material and be prepared to discuss the draft recommendation that will be presented at the meeting. The Commission's recommendation for updating payments for hospice services will be included in the March 2012 report.

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