

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Long-term care hospital services

ISSUE: By law, each year the Commission is required to review Medicare payment policies and to make recommendations to the Congress. The Commission asks whether Medicare payments to long-term care hospitals (LTCHs) are adequate and how they should be updated in 2019.

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will review information about the adequacy of current aggregate Medicare LTCH payments. We will look at information about: beneficiaries' access to care, the supply of LTCHs, changes in the volume of services furnished, quality of care, providers' access to capital, and Medicare's payments and costs.

ACTION: Commissioners should review findings and be prepared to discuss at the December meeting.