

## **Assessing payment adequacy: ambulatory surgical centers**

**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 payments to ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs) are adequate and how they should be updated in 2014.

**KEY POINTS:** We evaluate several factors to determine the adequacy of Medicare payments for ASC services: beneficiaries' access to services, ASCs' access to capital, and change in revenue from the Medicare program.

**ACTION:** Commissioners should review the findings in preparation for a discussion at the January meeting.

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