

Assessing payment adequacy: Long-term care hospital services

ISSUE: Are Medicare’s payments for long-term care hospital (LTCH) services adequate? How should payments be changed in 2012?

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will review information about the adequacy of current aggregate 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. In addition, we will discuss findings from the expert panel MedPAC convened to explore the development of quality measures for use in LTCHs. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act mandates that CMS implement a pay-for-reporting program for LTCHs by 2014.

ACTION: Commissioners should review findings and discuss the draft recommendation, which will be presented at the meeting. Commissioners may also wish to consider making a recommendation to the Secretary on quality measures for use in a pay-for-reporting program.

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