

Assessing payment adequacy: Hospice 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 payments to hospice are adequate and how they should be updated in 2014.

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 2010.

ACTION: Commissioners should review the findings presented in the attached briefing material and be prepared to discuss them at the meeting.

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