

Mandated report: quality of care in rural areas

ISSUE: The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) of 2010 requires MedPAC to evaluate access to care, quality of care, special rural payments, and the adequacy of Medicare payments to providers in rural areas. The report is due June 15, 2012. In this meeting we will discuss quality of care.

KEY POINTS: We examined hospital mortality, readmission, and process measures. We will also discuss quality of care in rural home health agencies, skilled nursing facilities, and dialysis facilities.

ACTION: Commissioners should discuss the issues raised by this mailing and consider next steps.

STAFF CONTACT: Adaeze Akamigbo (202-220-3729); Jeff Stensland (202-220-3726)