

Mandated report: Relationship between physician and other health professional services and other Medicare services

ISSUE: Section 101(a)(3) of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) directs MedPAC to submit a report to the Congress on the relationship between use of and expenditures for services provided by physicians and other health professionals and total service use and expenditures under Parts A, B, and D of Medicare. The Act directs MedPAC to submit an initial report no later than July 1, 2017 and a final report no later than July 1, 2021.

KEY POINTS: To fulfill the Congressional mandate, we analyzed the program data for Medicare Part A, Part B, and Part D. The analytical approach includes regression-based methods used in our previous work on regional variation in Medicare service use. In this session, we will present the results of the analysis.

ACTION: Commissioners should discuss the material presented and provide guidance to staff on the overall approach to fulfilling the mandate and initial findings.

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