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Uniform outcome measures under a unified post-acute care payment system

ISSUE: In June 2016, pursuant to a statutory mandate, the Commission outlined features of a unified payment system that would span the four post-acute care (PAC) settings. One important concern in establishing a unified payment system is the potential impact on patient outcomes. Therefore, it will be imperative that patient outcomes are uniformly defined and measured for all PAC providers, and that CMS monitor provider behavior.

KEY POINTS: This session will review the planned analyses of two outcome measures to monitor—potentially avoidable readmission rates and Medicare spending per beneficiary.

ACTION: Commissioners should be prepared to provide feedback on the proposed analyses.

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