

Medicare payment policies for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician assistants (PAs)

ISSUE: The number of APRNs and PAs has increased rapidly in recent years. In addition, many states have loosened their scope of practice laws, giving APRNs and PAs a greater degree of authority or autonomy.

KEY POINTS: Medicare has become increasingly reliant on APRNs and PAs to deliver care to beneficiaries. We discuss potential options to improve Medicare's payment policies for APRNs and PAs and to enhance the information the program has on such practitioners.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss the information presented and the direction of further work on the topic.