

Implementing a unified payment system for post-acute care

ISSUE: In response to a Congressional mandate (the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014), in our June 2016 report the Commission recommended the features of a prospective payment system (PPS) spanning the four post-acute care (PAC) settings and considered the effects of moving to such a system. In that report, the Commission noted that a unified payment system could be implemented sooner than the current timetable (sometime after 2024).

KEY POINTS: This month we review information about when a PAC PPS could begin to be implemented, whether the implementation should include a transition, the level of payments, and the need to periodically refine the payment system.

ACTION: Commissioners will provide comments on the draft chapter to be included in the June 2017 report and vote on the draft recommendation.