

## **Improving incentives in the emergency department payment systems**

**ISSUE:** There is a need to maintain access to emergency department (ED) services in rural areas that cannot support a full-service hospital. There are also concerns about growth in emergency department visit volume in urban areas and potentially unnecessary growth in higher-cost ED visits relative to lower-cost physician office visits.

**KEY POINTS:** The Commission will follow up on its 2016 discussion of rural access to emergency services and its 2017 discussion of urban off-campus emergency departments.

**ACTION:** Discussion of rural and urban emergency department payment policy.