

## **Aligning benefits and cost sharing under a unified payment system for post-acute care**

**ISSUE:** Under a unified payment system for post-acute care (PAC), beneficiaries should be entitled to the same benefits and face the same cost sharing, regardless of where they are treated.

**KEY POINTS:** Currently, benefits and cost sharing vary considerably by PAC setting. As payments and regulatory requirements are aligned under a unified PAC payment system, benefits and cost sharing should similarly be aligned. Aligned benefits could consider whether there would be limits on the days covered and/or a required prior hospitalization for Medicare coverage. Aligned cost sharing could consider a copayment for each PAC service used and/or an annual out-of-pocket limit for beneficiary spending.

**ACTION:** Commissioners will discuss the possible benefits and cost sharing that could be aligned for staff to model an illustrative design.