

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Skilled nursing facility services

ISSUE: By law, each year the Commission is required to review Medicare payment policies and to make recommendations to the Congress. The Commission asks whether payments to skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) are adequate and how they should be updated in 2021.

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will review information about the adequacy of Medicare’s current payments to SNFs. We will look at information about: beneficiaries’ access to care, the supply of SNFs, changes in the volume of services furnished, quality of care, providers’ access to capital, and Medicare’s payments and costs.

ACTION: Commissioners will review and vote on a recommendation to update Medicare payment rates for skilled nursing facility services.

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Home health care services

ISSUE: Each year the Commission examines measures of the adequacy of payments to fee-for-service providers, pursuant to the statutory framework.

KEY POINTS: We examine several factors to determine the adequacy of Medicare's payments for home health services, including access to care (supply of providers and service utilization), quality of care, providers' access to capital, and Medicare payments and costs.

ACTION: The Commissioners will discuss the update to the home health prospective payment system and vote on the draft recommendation for 2021.

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Inpatient rehabilitation facility services

ISSUE: By law, each year the Commission is required to review Medicare payment policies and to make recommendations to the Congress. The Commission asks whether payments to inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs) are adequate and how they should be updated in 2021.

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will review information about the adequacy of Medicare’s current payments to IRFs. We will look at information about: beneficiaries’ access to care, the supply of IRFs, changes in the volume of services furnished, quality of care, providers’ access to capital, and Medicare’s payments and costs.

ACTION: Commissioners will review and vote on a recommendation to update Medicare payment rates for inpatient rehabilitation services.

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Long-term care hospital services

ISSUE: By law, each year the Commission is required to review Medicare payment policies and to make recommendations to the Congress. The Commission asks whether Medicare payments to long-term care hospitals (LTCHs) are adequate and how they should be updated in 2021.

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will review information about the adequacy of current aggregate Medicare LTCH payments. We will look at information about: beneficiaries' access to care, the supply of LTCHs, changes in the volume of services furnished, quality of care, providers' access to capital, and Medicare's payments and costs.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss findings and vote on the draft recommendation.