

Mandated report: Principles for evaluating the expansion of Medicare's coverage of telehealth services

ISSUE: The Commission has been mandated by Congress through the 21st Century Cures Act of 2016 to report on information about the extent to which the Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) program covers telehealth services, the extent to which commercial insurance plans cover telehealth services, and ways in which the telehealth coverage policies of commercial insurance plans might be incorporated into the Medicare FFS program. The report is due by March 15, 2018.

KEY POINTS: At the November meeting we present a set of principles to guide any expansion of Medicare's coverage of telehealth services.

ACTION: Commissioners should provide feedback on policy directions.