

**Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Outpatient dialysis 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 for outpatient dialysis services are adequate and how they should be updated in 2015.

**KEY POINTS:** At this meeting, we will examine information about the adequacy of current aggregate outpatient dialysis payments. We will look at information about:

- Access to care: supply of providers and volume of services
- Quality of dialysis care
- Access to capital
- Medicare payments and costs.

**ACTION:** Commissioners should review the findings presented in the attached briefing material and be prepared to vote on the draft payment update recommendation and the draft recommendation on improving the new dialysis facility payment prospective payment method.

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