

Medicare coverage of and payment for home infusion therapy

ISSUE: Congress has requested that MedPAC conduct a study on home infusion therapy and provide a Report to Congress in June 2012. The study is to look at issues such as the benefits and costs associated with providing infusions in the home versus alternative settings, how commercial insurers and Medicare Advantage plans cover and pay for home infusion therapy, and any issues surrounding potential abuse of a home infusion therapy benefit.

KEY POINTS: In this presentation, we will examine sources of data on the cost of providing home infusion. We will discuss cost implications of providing infusion therapy in different sites of care and under different payment systems. We will describe policy options related to home infusion coverage.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss issues raised by this draft report.

STAFF CONTACT: Joan Sokolovsky and Kim Neuman (202-220-3700)