

Site-neutral payments for select conditions treated in inpatient rehabilitation facilities and skilled nursing facilities

ISSUE: This paper explores preliminary issues with site-neutral payments between inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRF) and skilled nursing facilities (SNF) for conditions that are treated in both settings.

KEY POINTS: Although services furnished in IRFs and SNF differ, there is considerable overlap in the patients treated for some conditions. To illustrate the issues raised by site neutral payments, we selected three conditions: patients recovering from strokes, major joint replacement, and hip and femur procedures. We examine various characteristics of the patients treated in both settings and select outcomes to assess whether the patients are similar.

ACTION: Commissioners should prepare to discuss site-neutral payments between IRFs and SNFs for these select conditions.

STAFF CONTACT: Carol Carter and Sara Sadownik (202- 220-3700).