

Hospitals' capacity to serve Medicare patients

ISSUE: As part of our framework for evaluating payment adequacy, we examine Medicare beneficiaries' access to care.

KEY POINTS: In examining the general availability of hospital services to Medicare beneficiaries, we have traditionally looked at measures of hospital service capacity and utilization. These measures include; hospital openings and closures, service offerings, inpatient utilization, industry employment levels and other measures. Collectively, these measures provide a broad overview of hospitals' capacity to serve Medicare patients.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss hospital capacity and beneficiary access to care.

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