

Medicare coverage for vaccines

ISSUE: The Covid-19 pandemic has raised awareness of the importance of developing and delivering vaccines against infectious diseases.

KEY POINTS: Medicare’s coverage of vaccines spans across Part B and Part D. Under recently enacted law, SARS-CoV-2 vaccines will be covered under Part B. In 2007, the Commission recommended that all vaccine coverage be moved to Part B. While some of the Commission’s original rationale for its recommendation no longer applies, there may still be reasons to cover some or all vaccines under Part B.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss the issues raised in the material and provide guidance on the potential policy direction.