

Misvalued clinician services: Current status and next steps

ISSUE: The Commission has a longstanding concern about distortions in Medicare’s fee schedule for clinician services. These distortions lead to underpayment for primary care relative to other services and to disparities in clinician compensation. In response, the Commission has made recommendations that include a payment adjustment for primary care services billable under the fee schedule, formation of a standing panel of experts to help CMS identify overpriced services, and collection of objective data CMS could use in setting the fee schedule’s payments for the work of clinicians and their practice expenses.

KEY POINTS: During this session, staff will review the Commission’s prior work on misvalued services and the current status of efforts to address the problem.

ACTION: Commissioners should provide feedback and comments to staff on next steps for work in this area.

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