

Mandated report: Medicare's skilled nursing facility value-based purchasing program and proposed replacement

ISSUE: The Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 required the Secretary of Health and Human Services to implement a value-based purchasing (VBP) program for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) that started to affect payments beginning on October 1, 2018. The law also requires MedPAC to review the progress of the VBP and make recommendations as appropriate on any improvements that should be made. The report is due by June 30, 2021.

KEY POINTS: In previous meetings, the Commission discussed the flaws of the SNF VBP, the design features of an alternative value incentive program, and the need for measures of patient experience. At the March meeting, the Commissioners discussed the draft recommendations.

ACTION: At this meeting, the Commissioners will vote on the draft recommendations.