

Implementing a unified payment system for post-acute care

ISSUE: In response to a Congressional mandate (the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014), in our June 2016 report the Commission recommended the features of a prospective payment system (PPS) spanning the four post-acute care (PAC) settings and considered the effects of moving to such a system. In that report, the Commission noted that a unified payment system could be implemented sooner than the current timetable (sometime after 2024).

KEY POINTS: This month we present information about a transition to a PAC PPS and the level of payments. We also outline why the Secretary needs to have the authority to revise and rebase payments.

ACTION: Commissioners will provide comments on the draft chapter to be included in the June 2017 report and consider the Chairman's draft recommendation.