

## **Telehealth services and the Medicare program**

**ISSUE:** We initiated research on telehealth services because of commissioners' interest in learning more about the extent to which telehealth is used within the Medicare program and outside the program.

**KEY POINTS:** We provide background on the telehealth services including definitions, use within the Medicare program, and use in the private sector. We also identify several concerns about expanding telehealth services within the Medicare program and in the private sector. We also pose a variety of questions with regard to expanding telehealth coverage under Medicare, and future telehealth analytic work for the Commission's consideration.

**ACTION:** Commissioners should provide feedback on research directions and policy.

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