

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Skilled nursing facility services

ISSUE: MedPAC assesses the adequacy of current payments and develops an update recommendation for skilled nursing facilities in 2022. Key questions to consider:

- Are Medicare payments for skilled nursing facility (SNF) care adequate?
- How should Medicare’s payments change for fiscal year 2022?

KEY POINTS: We use the Commission’s payment adequacy framework to discuss the payment update for SNF services for 2022. This framework considers:

- beneficiary access to care (including the supply of providers and volume of services),
- indicators of the quality of care furnished to beneficiaries,
- access to capital markets, and
- changes in Medicare costs and payments.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss the findings and vote on the draft update recommendation.

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Home health care services

ISSUE: Each year the Commission examines measures of the adequacy of fee-for-service payments for home health services.

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will review information about the adequacy of Medicare payments for home health care services. We will look at information about: beneficiaries' access to care, the supply of HHAs, changes in the volume of services furnished, quality of care, providers' access to capital, and Medicare's payments and costs.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss findings and vote on the draft recommendation.

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Inpatient rehabilitation facility services

ISSUE: By law, each year the Commission is required to review Medicare payment policies and make recommendations to the Congress. The Commission asks whether payments to inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs) are adequate and how they should be updated in 2022.

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will review information about the adequacy of Medicare's current payments to IRFs. We will look at information about: beneficiaries' access to care, the supply of IRFs, changes in the volume of services furnished, quality of care, providers' access to capital, and Medicare's payments and costs.

ACTION: Commissioners will review and vote on a draft recommendation to update Medicare payment rates for inpatient rehabilitation services.

Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments: Long-term care hospital services

ISSUE: By law, each year the Commission is required to review Medicare payment policies and make recommendations to the Congress. The Commission asks whether Medicare payments to long-term care hospitals (LTCHs) are adequate and how they should be updated in 2022.

KEY POINTS: At this meeting, we will review information about the adequacy of current aggregate Medicare LTCH payments. We will look at information about: beneficiaries' access to care, the supply of LTCHs, changes in the volume of services furnished, quality of care, providers' access to capital, and Medicare's payments and costs.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss findings and vote on the draft recommendation.