MEDPAC Medicare Payment Advisory Commission

MEETING BRIEF

October 6–7, 2011

# Moving forward from the Sustainable Growth Rate System

**ISSUE:** The sustainable growth rate (SGR) system— the current formulaic system for updating fee-schedule payments—is fundamentally flawed. Although eliminating it carries a high budgetary cost, leaving it in place is considered by many to be even more problematic.

**KEY POINTS:** The Commission will discuss the package of policy proposals to resolve the SGR policy and improve payments for physicians and other health professionals that was presented at the September meeting.

**ACTION:** Commissioners will discuss and vote on the Chairman's draft recommendations on the issue.

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