

Primer on Medicare coverage policy

ISSUE: Medicare provides coverage for a broad range of healthcare services under its Parts A, B, C, and D programs, as enumerated in Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

KEY POINTS: At the September meeting, we will discuss the process that Medicare uses to cover Parts A, B, C, and D services. We will also discuss the use of comparative clinical effectiveness research to improve the value of Medicare spending and summarize activities by two organizations that generate and use such research: the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute and the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review.

ACTION: Commissioners will discuss the material and possible directions for future work.