

**Assessing payment adequacy and updating payments:  
Physician and other health professional services, and Medicare  
payment policies for advanced practice registered nurses and  
physician assistants**

**ISSUE:** By law, each year the Commission is required to review Medicare payment policies and to make recommendations to the Congress. The Commission asks whether payments to physicians and other health professionals are adequate and how they should be updated in 2020. The Commission may also consider other issues related to payment for these professionals.

**KEY POINTS:** We examine several factors to determine the adequacy of Medicare's fee schedule payments for physicians and other health professionals, including: beneficiary access; volume growth; and variation in compensation across specialties.

**ACTION:** Commissioners will review the findings and discuss the update to Medicare's payments for physicians and other health professional services. The Commissioners will also discuss Medicare's payment policies for advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants.