



CMS Rural Health Update

NOSORH Region E Meeting

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Lucretia Knight

Region 8 Rural Health Coordinator

Disclaimer

This presentation was current at the time it was given. Medicare policy changes frequently so links to the source documents have been provided within the document for your reference.

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“Better, Smarter, Healthier”

- HHS Secretary Sylvia Burwell’s 1/26/2015 Announcement:
<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/01/20150126a.html>

“Better, Smarter, Healthier”

- Goal of tying traditional Medicare payments to quality or value through alternative payment models
 - 30 percent by the end of 2016
 - 50 percent by the end of 2018
- Overall goal of tying traditional Medicare payments to quality or value through programs such as the Hospital Value Based Purchasing Program and the Hospital Readmissions Reduction Programs:
 - 85 percent by 2016
 - 90 percent by 2018

“Better, Smarter, Healthier”

Payments through alternative payment models:

- Today approximately 20% of Medicare payments
- \$417 million total program savings due to existing ACO programs

“Better, Smarter, Healthier”

- Improved Quality
 - 50,000 fewer patient deaths in hospitals due to avoidable harms
 - 150,000 fewer preventable hospital readmissions

“Better, Smarter, Healthier”

- Health Care Payment Learning & Action Network Fact Sheet

<http://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2015-Fact-sheets-items/2015-03-25.html>

- Registration to participate:

innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Health-Care-Payment-Learning-and-Action-Network/

“Better, Smarter, Healthier”

- Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) Accountable Care Organization (ACO) programs with rural focus
 - Advance Payment Demonstration Program (no longer available)
 - ACO Investment Model
- ACO Investment Model Fact Sheet:
<http://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2014-Fact-sheets-items/2014-10-15.html>

State Operations Manual

Appendix W Updates (CAH CoP)

- January 16, 2015 Letter to State Survey Agency Directors (S&C 15-19):
<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-15-19.pdf>
- CAH Conditions of Participation (CoP) were changed in two final rules
 - CMS-1599-F published August 19, 2013 and became effective October 1, 2013
 - CMS-3267-F published May 12, 2014 and portions related to CAHs became effective July 11, 2014

State Operations Manual

Appendix W Updates (CAH CoP)

- State Operations Manual Appendix W:
http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/som107ap_w_cah.pdf

State Operations Manual

Appendix G Updates (RHC/FQHC)

- January 30, 2015 Letter to State Survey Agency Directors (S&C 15-22):
<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-15-22.pdf>
- RHC/FQHC guidelines updated from two final rules:
 - *Regulatory Provisions To Promote Program Efficiency, Transparency, and Burden Reduction; Part II*
 - *Prospective Payment System for Federally Qualified Health Centers; Changes to Contracting Policies for Rural Health Clinics; and Changes to Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 Enforcement Actions for Proficiency Testing Referral*

State Operations Manual

Appendix G Updates (RHC/FQHC)

- State Operations Manual Appendix G:

https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/som107a_p_g_rhc.pdf

Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015

- “Doc Fix” repealed the SGR
- Passed into law on 4/14/2015
- MLN Matters Article on IPPS Hospital Extensions per MACRA:
<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/MM9197.pdf>

Telehealth

- Some states using Innovation Grants to enhance telehealth
- Services qualifying as telehealth added/removed every January 1 with the Physician Fee Schedule.
- Suggest service additions/deletions on an ongoing basis
- CMS' Telehealth webpage:
<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/Telehealth/>

Use Your Rural Coordinator!

Region 8 Rural Coordinator (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)

Lucretia Knight (CMS Denver Regional Office)

Lucretia.Knight@cms.hhs.gov

(303) 844-7037

Region 10 Rural Coordinator (AK, ID, OR, WA)

Terry Cumpton (CMS Seattle Regional Office)

Teresa.Cumpton@cms.hhs.gov

(206) 615-2391

Internet-Only Manuals

- All of CMS' manuals (such as Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, and the State Operations Manual)

<http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Internet-Only-Manuals-IOMs.html>

Questions
