

items collected at inpatient facility admission or discharge only.

[64 FR 3784, Jan. 25, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 41211, July 3, 2000; 74 FR 58134, Nov. 10, 2009]

### Subpart D [Reserved]

### Subpart E—Prospective Payment System for Home Health Agencies

SOURCE: 65 FR 41212, July 3, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 484.200 Basis and scope.

(a) *Basis*. This subpart implements section 1895 of the Act, which provides for the implementation of a prospective payment system (PPS) for HHAs for portions of cost reporting periods occurring on or after October 1, 2000.

(b) *Scope*. This subpart sets forth the framework for the HHA PPS, including the methodology used for the development of the payment rates, associated adjustments, and related rules.

#### § 484.202 Definitions.

As used in this subpart—

*Case-mix index* means a scale that measures the relative difference in resource intensity among different groups in the clinical model.

*Discipline* means one of the six home health disciplines covered under the Medicare home health benefit (skilled nursing services, home health aide services, physical therapy services, occupational therapy services, speech-language pathology services, and medical social services).

*Home health market basket index* means an index that reflects changes over time in the prices of an appropriate mix of goods and services included in home health services.

*Rural area* means, with respect to home health episodes ending on or after January 1, 2006, an area defined in § 412.64(b)(1)(ii)(C) of this chapter.

*Urban area* means, with respect to home health episodes ending on or after January 1, 2006, an area defined in § 412.64(b)(1)(ii)(A) and (B) of this chapter.

[70 FR 68142, Nov. 9, 2005]

#### § 484.205 Basis of payment.

(a) *Method of payment*. An HHA receives a national prospective 60-day episode payment of a predetermined rate for a home health service previously paid on a reasonable cost basis (except the osteoporosis drug defined in section 1861(kk) of the Act) as of August 5, 1997. The national 60-day episode payment is determined in accordance with § 484.215. The national prospective 60-day episode payment is subject to the following adjustments and additional payments:

(1) A low-utilization payment adjustment (LUPA) of a predetermined per-visit rate as specified in § 484.230.

(2) A partial episode payment (PEP) adjustment due to an intervening event defined as a beneficiary elected transfer or a discharge and return to the same HHA during the 60-day episode, that warrants a new 60-day episode payment during an existing 60-day episode, that initiates the start of a new 60-day episode payment and a new physician certification of the new plan of care. The PEP adjustment is determined in accordance with § 484.235.

(3) An outlier payment is determined in accordance with § 484.240.

(b) *Episode payment*. The national prospective 60-day episode payment represents payment in full for all costs associated with furnishing home health services previously paid on a reasonable cost basis (except the osteoporosis drug listed in section 1861(m) of the Act as defined in section 1861(kk) of the Act) as of August 5, 1997 unless the national 60-day episode payment is subject to a low-utilization payment adjustment set forth in § 484.230, a partial episode payment adjustment set forth at § 484.235, or an additional outlier payment set forth in § 484.240. All payments under this system may be subject to a medical review adjustment reflecting beneficiary eligibility, medical necessity determinations, and HHRG assignment. DME provided as a home health service as defined in section 1861(m) of the Act continues to be paid the fee schedule amount.

(1) *Split percentage payment for initial episodes*. The initial percentage payment for initial episodes is paid to an HHA at 60 percent of the case-mix and wage adjusted 60-day episode rate. The