
“(a) The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall conduct a study to develop an appropriate index for purposes of adjusting payment amounts under section 1886(d) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (d) of this section] to reflect area differences in average hospital wage levels, as required under paragraphs (2)(H) and (3)(E) of such section [subsec. (d)(2)(H) and (3)(E) of this section], taking into account wage differences of full time and part time workers. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall report the results of such study to the Congress not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [July 18, 1984], including any changes which the Secretary determines to be necessary to provide for an appropriate index.

“(b) The Secretary shall adjust the payment amounts for hospitals discharges occurring on or after May 1, 1986, to reflect the changes the Secretary has promulgated in final regulations (on September 3, 1985) relating to the hospital wage index under section 1886(d)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (d)(3)(E) of this section]. For discharges occurring after September 30, 1986, the Secretary shall provide for such periodic adjustments in the appropriate wage index used under that section as may be necessary, taking into account changes in the wage levels and relative proportions of full-time and part-time workers.

“(c) The Secretary shall conduct a study and report to the Congress on proposed criteria under which, in the case of a hospital that demonstrates to the Secretary in a current fiscal year that the adjustment being made under paragraph (2)(H) or (3)(E) of section 1886(d) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (d)(2)(H) or (3)(E) of this section] for that hospital’s discharges in that fiscal year does not accurately reflect the wage levels in the labor market serving the hospital, the Secretary, to the extent he deems appropriate, would modify such adjustment for that hospital for discharges in the subsequent fiscal year to take into account a difference in payment amounts in that current fiscal year to the hospital that resulted from such inaccuracy.

Section 9103(a) of Pub. L. 99–272 provided that: “The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this note] shall be effective as if it had been included in the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984 (Pub. L. 98–369).”

DIFFERENT TREATMENT OF CAPITAL-PROJECTS-RELATED COSTS BEFORE AND AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF SYSTEM FOR INCLUDING SUCH COSTS UNDER PROSPECTIVELY DETERMINED PAYMENT RATE

Section 601(a)(3) of Pub. L. 98–921 provided that: “It is the intent of Congress that, in considering the implementation of a system for including capital-related costs under a prospectively determined payment rate for inpatient hospital services, costs related to capital projects for which expenditures are obligated on or after the effective date of the implementation of such system may or may not be distinguished and treated differently from costs of projects for which expenditures were obligated before such date.”

NEW ENGLAND HOSPITALS; CLASSIFICATION AS URBAN OR RURAL

Section 601(g) of Pub. L. 98–921 provided that: “In determining whether a hospital is in an urban or rural area for purposes of section 1886(d) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (d) of this section], the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall classify any hospital located in New England as being located in an urban area if such hospital was classified as being located in an urban area under the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area system of classification in effect in 1979.”

REPORTS, EXPERIMENTS, AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS RELATED TO INCLUSION IN PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT AMOUNTS OF INPATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICE CAPITAL-RELATED COSTS

Section 603(a) of title VI of Pub. L. 98–21, as amended by Pub. L. 98–369, div. B, title III, §2317, July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 811; Pub. L. 98–509, title IX, §905(b)(1), Oct. 21, 1983, 98 Stat. 1993; Pub. L. 104–66, title I, §1061(d), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 720, directed Secretary of Health and Human Services to report to Congress within 18 months after Apr. 20, 1983, on legislation by which capital-related costs associated with inpatient hospital services could be included within the prospective payment amounts computed under subsec. (d) of this section, further provided that the Secretary was to study and report to Congress on reimbursement of sole community hospitals based on variations in occupancy, on coordination of an information transfer between parts A and B of this subchapter, on treatment of uncompensated care costs and adjustments appropriate for large rural teaching hospitals, and on advisability of having hospitals make cost-of-care information to certain patients, and further provided that the Secretary was to study and report on a method for including hospitals outside the 50 States and the District of Columbia under a prospective payment system.

INAPPLICABILITY OF COORDINATION OF FEDERAL INFORMATION POLICY TO THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

Section 101(b)(2)(B) of Pub. L. 97–248, as amended by Pub. L. 97–248, title II, §9103(a)(1), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 1568, provided that: “Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, shall not apply, until January 1, 1984, to collection of information and information collection requests which the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines to be necessary to carry out the amendments made by this section [amendments by section 101(a) of Pub. L. 97–248, enacting this section and amending section 1395xx of this title].”

§1395xx. Payment of provider-based physicians and payment under certain percentage arrangements

(a) Criteria; amount of payments

(1) The Secretary shall by regulation determine criteria for distinguishing those services (including inpatient and outpatient services) rendered in hospitals or skilled nursing facilities—

(A) which constitute professional medical services, which are personally rendered for an individual patient by a physician and which contribute to the diagnosis or treatment of an individual patient, and which may be reimbursed as physicians’ services under part B, and

(B) which constitute professional services which are rendered for the general benefit to patients in a hospital or skilled nursing facility and which may be reimbursed only on a reasonable cost basis or on the bases described in section 1395ww of this title.

(2)(A) For purposes of cost reimbursement, the Secretary shall recognize as a reasonable cost of a hospital or skilled nursing facility only that portion of the costs attributable to services rendered by a physician in such hospital or facility which are services described in paragraph (1)(B), apportioned on the basis of the amount of time actually spent by such physician rendering such services.
(B) In determining the amount of the payments which may be made with respect to services described in paragraph (1)(B), after apportioning costs as required by subparagraph (A), the Secretary may not recognize as reasonable (in the efficient delivery of health services) such portion of the provider’s costs for such services to the extent that such costs exceed the reasonable compensation equivalent for such services. The reasonable compensation equivalent for any service shall be established by the Secretary in regulations.

(C) The Secretary may, upon a showing by a hospital or facility that it is unable to recruit or maintain an adequate number of physicians for the hospital or facility on account of the reimbursement limits established under this subsection, grant exceptions to such reimbursement limits as may be necessary to allow such provider to provide a compensation level sufficient to provide adequate physician services in such hospital or facility.

(b) Prohibition of recognition of payments under certain percentage agreements

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), in the case of a provider of services which is paid under this subchapter on a reasonable cost basis, or other basis related to costs that are reasonable, and which has entered into a contract for the purpose of having services furnished for or on behalf of it, the Secretary may not include any cost incurred by the provider under the contract if the amount payable under the contract by the provider for that cost is determined on the basis of a percentage (or other proportion) of the provider’s charges, revenues, or claim for reimbursement.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply—
(A) to services furnished by a physician and described in subsection (a)(1)(B) of this section and covered by regulations in effect under subsection (a) of this section, and
(B) under regulations established by the Secretary, where the amount involved under the percentage contract is reasonable and the contract—
(i) is a customary commercial business practice, or
(ii) provides incentives for the efficient and economical operation of the provider of services.


AMENDMENTS

1983—Subsec. (a)(1)(B). Pub. L. 98–21 inserted “or on the bases described in section 1395ww of this title”.


Effective Date of 1983 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 98–21 applicable to items and services furnished by or under arrangement with a hospital beginning with its first cost reporting period that begins on or after Oct. 1, 1983, any change in a hospital’s cost reporting period made after November 1982 to be recognized for such purposes only if the Secretary finds good cause therefor, see section 109(a)(1) of Pub. L. 98–21, set out as a note under section 1395ww of this title.

Effective Date of 1982 Amendment

Section 109(c)(1), (2) of Pub. L. 97–248 provided that:
“(1) The amendments made by this section (amending this section and section 1395xx of this title) shall become effective on the date of the enactment of this Act [Sept. 3, 1982], except that section 1887(b)(1) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (b)(1) of this section] shall not apply before October 1, 1982, to services furnished by a physician and described in section 1887(a)(1)(B) of such Act [subsec. (a)(1)(B) of this section].

“(2) In the case of a contract with a provider of services entered into prior to the date of the enactment of this Act [Sept. 3, 1982], the amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to payments under such contract (A) 30 days after the first date (after such date of enactment) the provider of services may unilaterally terminate the contract, or (B) one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever is earlier.”

Effective Date of Regulations

Section 108(b), formerly § 108(c), of Pub. L. 97–248, as redesignated by Pub. L. 97–448, title III, § 309(a)(3), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2408, provided that: “The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall first promulgate regulations to carry out section 1887(a) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (a) of this section] not later than October 1, 1982. Such regulations shall become effective on October 1, 1982, and shall be effective with respect to cost reporting periods ending after September 30, 1982, but in the case of any cost reporting period beginning before October 1, 1982, any reduction in payments under title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this subchapter] to a hospital or skilled nursing facility resulting from such regulations shall be imposed only in proportion to the part of the period which occurs after September 30, 1982.”

§ 1395yy. Payment to skilled nursing facilities for routine service costs

(a) Per diem limitations

The Secretary, in determining the amount of the payments which may be made under this subchapter with respect to routine service costs of extended care services shall not recognize as reasonable (in the efficient delivery of health services) per diem costs of such services to the extent that such per diem costs exceed the following per diem limits, except as otherwise provided in this section:

(1) With respect to freestanding skilled nursing facilities located in urban areas, the limit shall be equal to 112 percent of the mean per diem routine service costs for freestanding skilled nursing facilities located in urban areas.

(2) With respect to freestanding skilled nursing facilities located in rural areas, the limit shall be equal to 112 percent of the mean per diem routine service costs for freestanding skilled nursing facilities located in rural areas.

(3) With respect to hospital-based skilled nursing facilities located in urban areas, the limit shall be equal to the sum of the limit for freestanding skilled nursing facilities located in urban areas, plus 50 percent of the amount by which 112 percent of the mean per diem routine service costs for freestanding skilled nursing facilities located in urban areas exceeds the limit for freestanding skilled nursing facilities located in urban areas.

(4) With respect to hospital-based skilled nursing facilities located in rural areas, the