

not later than one year after Dec. 13, 1977, on such study.

PROHIBITION AGAINST PAYMENTS IN CASES OF NONENTITLEMENT TO MONTHLY BENEFITS UNDER SUBCHAPTER II OR SUSPENSION OF BENEFITS OF ALIENS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Section 104(b)(1) of Pub. L. 89-97 provided that: "No payments shall be made under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part] with respect to expenses incurred by an individual during any month for which such individual may not be paid monthly benefits under title II of such Act [subchapter II of this chapter] (or for which such monthly benefits would be suspended if he were otherwise entitled thereto) by reason of section 202(t) of such Act [section 402(t) of this title] (relating to suspension of benefits of aliens who are outside the United States)."

**§ 1395m. Special payment rules for particular items and services**

**(a) Payment for durable medical equipment**

**(1) General rule for payment**

**(A) In general**

With respect to a covered item (as defined in paragraph (13)) for which payment is determined under this subsection, payment shall be made in the frequency specified in paragraphs (2) through (7) and in an amount equal to 80 percent of the payment basis described in subparagraph (B).

**(B) Payment basis**

Subject to subparagraph (F)(i), the payment basis described in this subparagraph is the lesser of—

- (i) the actual charge for the item, or
- (ii) the payment amount recognized under paragraphs (2) through (7) of this subsection for the item;

except that clause (i) shall not apply if the covered item is furnished by a public home health agency (or by another home health agency which demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that a significant portion of its patients are low income) free of charge or at nominal charges to the public.

**(C) Exclusive payment rule**

Subject to subparagraph (F)(ii), this subsection shall constitute the exclusive provision of this subchapter for payment for covered items under this part or under part A of this subchapter to a home health agency.

**(D) Reduction in fee schedules for certain items**

With respect to a seat-lift chair or transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator furnished on or after April 1, 1990, the Secretary shall reduce the payment amount applied under subparagraph (B)(ii) for such an item by 15 percent, and, in the case of a transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator furnished on or after January 1, 1991, the Secretary shall further reduce such payment amount (as previously reduced) by 45 percent.

**(E) Clinical conditions for coverage**

**(i) In general**

The Secretary shall establish standards for clinical conditions for payment for covered items under this subsection.

**(ii) Requirements**

The standards established under clause (i) shall include the specification of types or classes of covered items that require, as a condition of payment under this subsection, a face-to-face examination of the individual by a physician (as defined in section 1395x(r) of this title), a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or a clinical nurse specialist (as those terms are defined in section 1395x(aa)(5) of this title) and a prescription for the item.

**(iii) Priority of establishment of standards**

In establishing the standards under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall first establish standards for those covered items for which the Secretary determines there has been a proliferation of use, consistent findings of charges for covered items that are not delivered, or consistent findings of falsification of documentation to provide for payment of such covered items under this part.

**(iv) Standards for power wheelchairs**

Effective on December 8, 2003, in the case of a covered item consisting of a motorized or power wheelchair for an individual, payment may not be made for such covered item unless a physician (as defined in section 1395x(r)(1) of this title), a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or a clinical nurse specialist (as those terms are defined in section 1395x(aa)(5) of this title) has conducted a face-to-face examination of the individual and written a prescription for the item.

**(v) Limitation on payment for covered items**

Payment may not be made for a covered item under this subsection unless the item meets any standards established under this subparagraph for clinical condition of coverage.

**(F) Application of competitive acquisition; limitation of inherent reasonableness authority**

In the case of covered items furnished on or after January 1, 2011, subject to subparagraph (G), that are included in a competitive acquisition program in a competitive acquisition area under section 1395w-3(a) of this title—

(i) the payment basis under this subsection for such items and services furnished in such area shall be the payment basis determined under such competitive acquisition program;

(ii) the Secretary may (and, in the case of covered items furnished on or after January 1, 2016, subject to clause (iii), shall) use information on the payment determined under such competitive acquisition programs to adjust the payment amount otherwise recognized under subparagraph (B)(ii) for an area that is not a competitive acquisition area under section 1395w-3 of this title and in the case of such adjustment, paragraph (10)(B) shall not be applied; and

(iii) in the case of covered items furnished on or after January 1, 2016, the Secretary shall continue to make such adjustments described in clause (ii) as, under such competitive acquisition programs, additional covered items are phased in or information is updated as contracts under section 1395w-3 of this title are recomputed in accordance with section 1395w-3(b)(3)(B) of this title.

**(G) Use of information on competitive bid rates**

The Secretary shall specify by regulation the methodology to be used in applying the provisions of subparagraph (F)(ii) and subsection (h)(1)(H)(ii). In promulgating such regulation, the Secretary shall consider the costs of items and services in areas in which such provisions would be applied compared to the payment rates for such items and services in competitive acquisition areas.

**(2) Payment for inexpensive and other routinely purchased durable medical equipment**

**(A) In general**

Payment for an item of durable medical equipment (as defined in paragraph (13))—

- (i) the purchase price of which does not exceed \$150,
- (ii) which the Secretary determines is acquired at least 75 percent of the time by purchase, or
- (iii) which is an accessory used in conjunction with a nebulizer, aspirator, or a ventilator excluded under paragraph (3)(A),

shall be made on a rental basis or in a lump-sum amount for the purchase of the item. The payment amount recognized for purchase or rental of such equipment is the amount specified in subparagraph (B) for purchase or rental, except that the total amount of payments with respect to an item may not exceed the payment amount specified in subparagraph (B) with respect to the purchase of the item.

**(B) Payment amount**

For purposes of subparagraph (A), the amount specified in this subparagraph, with respect to the purchase or rental of an item furnished in a carrier service area—

- (i) in 1989 and in 1990 is the average reasonable charge in the area for the purchase or rental, respectively, of the item for the 12-month period ending on June 30, 1987, increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 6-month period ending with December 1987;
- (ii) in 1991 is the sum of (I) 67 percent of the local payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(i)(I) for 1991, and (II) 33 percent of the national limited payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(ii) for 1991;
- (iii) in 1992 is the sum of (I) 33 percent of the local payment amount for the item or

device computed under subparagraph (C)(i)(II) for 1992, and (II) 67 percent of the national limited payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(ii) for 1992; and

(iv) in 1993 and each subsequent year is the national limited payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(ii) for that year (reduced by 10 percent, in the case of a blood glucose testing strip furnished after 1997 for an individual with diabetes).

**(C) Computation of local payment amount and national limited payment amount**

For purposes of subparagraph (B)—

- (i) the local payment amount for an item or device for a year is equal to—
  - (I) for 1991, the amount specified in subparagraph (B)(i) for 1990 increased by the covered item update for 1991, and
  - (II) for 1992, 1993, and 1994, the amount determined under this clause for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for the year; and
- (ii) the national limited payment amount for an item or device for a year is equal to—

(I) for 1991, the local payment amount determined under clause (i) for such item or device for that year, except that the national limited payment amount may not exceed 100 percent of the weighted average of all local payment amounts determined under such clause for such item for that year and may not be less than 85 percent of the weighted average of all local payment amounts determined under such clause for such item,

(II) for 1992 and 1993, the amount determined under this clause for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for such subsequent year,

(III) for 1994, the local payment amount determined under clause (i) for such item or device for that year, except that the national limited payment amount may not exceed 100 percent of the median of all local payment amounts determined under such clause for such item for that year and may not be less than 85 percent of the median of all local payment amounts determined under such clause for such item or device for that year, and

(IV) for each subsequent year, the amount determined under this clause for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for such subsequent year.

**(3) Payment for items requiring frequent and substantial servicing**

**(A) In general**

Payment for a covered item (such as IPPB machines and ventilators, excluding ventilators that are either continuous airway pressure devices or intermittent assist devices with continuous airway pressure devices) for which there must be frequent and substantial servicing in order to avoid risk to the

patient's health shall be made on a monthly basis for the rental of the item and the amount recognized is the amount specified in subparagraph (B).

**(B) Payment amount**

For purposes of subparagraph (A), the amount specified in this subparagraph, with respect to an item or device furnished in a carrier service area—

(i) in 1989 and in 1990 is the average reasonable charge in the area for the rental of the item or device for the 12-month period ending with June 1987, increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 6-month period ending with December 1987;

(ii) in 1991 is the sum of (I) 67 percent of the local payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(i)(I) for 1991, and (II) 33 percent of the national limited payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(ii) for 1991;

(iii) in 1992 is the sum of (I) 33 percent of the local payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(i)(II) for 1992, and (II) 67 percent of the national limited payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(ii) for 1992; and

(iv) in 1993 and each subsequent year is the national limited payment amount for the item or device computed under subparagraph (C)(ii) for that year.

**(C) Computation of local payment amount and national limited payment amount**

For purposes of subparagraph (B)—

(i) the local payment amount for an item or device for a year is equal to—

(I) for 1991, the amount specified in subparagraph (B)(i) for 1990 increased by the covered item update for 1991, and

(II) for 1992, 1993, and 1994, the amount determined under this clause for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for the year; and

(ii) the national limited payment amount for an item or device for a year is equal to—

(I) for 1991, the local payment amount determined under clause (i) for such item or device for that year, except that the national limited payment amount may not exceed 100 percent of the weighted average of all local payment amounts determined under such clause for such item for that year and may not be less than 85 percent of the weighted average of all local payment amounts determined under such clause for such item,

(II) for 1992 and 1993, the amount determined under this clause for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for such subsequent year,

(III) for 1994, the local payment amount determined under clause (i) for such item or device for that year, except that the national limited payment

amount may not exceed 100 percent of the median of all local payment amounts determined under such clause for such item for that year and may not be less than 85 percent of the median of all local payment amounts determined under such clause for such item or device for that year, and

(IV) for each subsequent year, the amount determined under this clause for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for such subsequent year.

**(4) Payment for certain customized items**

Payment with respect to a covered item that is uniquely constructed or substantially modified to meet the specific needs of an individual patient, and for that reason cannot be grouped with similar items for purposes of payment under this subchapter, shall be made in a lump-sum amount (A) for the purchase of the item in a payment amount based upon the carrier's individual consideration for that item, and (B) for the reasonable and necessary maintenance and servicing for parts and labor not covered by the supplier's or manufacturer's warranty, when necessary during the period of medical need, and the amount recognized for such maintenance and servicing shall be paid on a lump-sum, as needed basis based upon the carrier's individual consideration for that item.

**(5) Payment for oxygen and oxygen equipment**

**(A) In general**

Payment for oxygen and oxygen equipment shall be made on a monthly basis in the monthly payment amount recognized under paragraph (9) for oxygen and oxygen equipment (other than portable oxygen equipment), subject to subparagraphs (B), (C), (E), and (F).

**(B) Add-on for portable oxygen equipment**

When portable oxygen equipment is used, but subject to subparagraph (D), the payment amount recognized under subparagraph (A) shall be increased by the monthly payment amount recognized under paragraph (9) for portable oxygen equipment.

**(C) Volume adjustment**

When the attending physician prescribes an oxygen flow rate—

(i) exceeding 4 liters per minute, the payment amount recognized under subparagraph (A), subject to subparagraph (D), shall be increased by 50 percent, or

(ii) of less than 1 liter per minute, the payment amount recognized under subparagraph (A) shall be decreased by 50 percent.

**(D) Limit on adjustment**

When portable oxygen equipment is used and the attending physician prescribes an oxygen flow rate exceeding 4 liters per minute, there shall only be an increase under either subparagraph (B) or (C), whichever increase is larger, and not under both such subparagraphs.

**(E) Recertification for patients receiving home oxygen therapy**

In the case of a patient receiving home oxygen therapy services who, at the time such services are initiated, has an initial arterial blood gas value at or above a partial pressure of 56 or an arterial oxygen saturation at or above 89 percent (or such other values, pressures, or criteria as the Secretary may specify) no payment may be made under this part for such services after the expiration of the 90-day period that begins on the date the patient first receives such services unless the patient's attending physician certifies that, on the basis of a follow-up test of the patient's arterial blood gas value or arterial oxygen saturation conducted during the final 30 days of such 90-day period, there is a medical need for the patient to continue to receive such services.

**(F) Rental cap****(i) In general**

Payment for oxygen equipment (including portable oxygen equipment) under this paragraph may not extend over a period of continuous use (as determined by the Secretary) of longer than 36 months.

**(ii) Payments and rules after rental cap**

After the 36th continuous month during which payment is made for the equipment under this paragraph—

(I) the supplier furnishing such equipment under this subsection shall continue to furnish the equipment during any period of medical need for the remainder of the reasonable useful lifetime of the equipment, as determined by the Secretary;

(II) payments for oxygen shall continue to be made in the amount recognized for oxygen under paragraph (9) for the period of medical need; and

(III) maintenance and servicing payments shall, if the Secretary determines such payments are reasonable and necessary, be made (for parts and labor not covered by the supplier's or manufacturer's warranty, as determined by the Secretary to be appropriate for the equipment), and such payments shall be in an amount determined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

**(6) Payment for other covered items (other than durable medical equipment)**

Payment for other covered items (other than durable medical equipment and other covered items described in paragraph (3), (4), or (5)) shall be made in a lump-sum amount for the purchase of the item in the amount of the purchase price recognized under paragraph (8).

**(7) Payment for other items of durable medical equipment****(A) Payment**

In the case of an item of durable medical equipment not described in paragraphs (2) through (6), the following rules shall apply:

**(i) Rental****(I) In general**

Except as provided in clause (iii), payment for the item shall be made on a monthly basis for the rental of the item during the period of medical need (but payments under this clause may not extend over a period of continuous use (as determined by the Secretary) of longer than 13 months).

**(II) Payment amount**

Subject to subclause (III) and subparagraph (B), the amount recognized for the item, for each of the first 3 months of such period, is 10 percent of the purchase price recognized under paragraph (8) with respect to the item, and, for each of the remaining months of such period, is 7.5 percent of such purchase price.

**(III) Special rule for power-driven wheelchairs**

For purposes of payment for power-driven wheelchairs, subclause (II) shall be applied by substituting "15 percent" and "6 percent" for "10 percent" and "7.5 percent", respectively.

**(ii) Ownership after rental**

On the first day that begins after the 13th continuous month during which payment is made for the rental of an item under clause (i), the supplier of the item shall transfer title to the item to the individual.

**(iii) Purchase agreement option for complex, rehabilitative power-driven wheelchairs**

In the case of a complex, rehabilitative power-driven wheelchair, at the time the supplier furnishes the item, the supplier shall offer the individual the option to purchase the item, and payment for such item shall be made on a lump-sum basis if the individual exercises such option.

**(iv) Maintenance and servicing**

After the supplier transfers title to the item under clause (ii) or in the case of a power-driven wheelchair for which a purchase agreement has been entered into under clause (iii), maintenance and servicing payments shall, if the Secretary determines such payments are reasonable and necessary, be made (for parts and labor not covered by the supplier's or manufacturer's warranty, as determined by the Secretary to be appropriate for the particular type of durable medical equipment), and such payments shall be in an amount determined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

**(B) Range for rental amounts****(i) For 1989**

For items furnished during 1989, the payment amount recognized under subparagraph (A)(i) shall not be more than 115 percent, and shall not be less than 85 percent, of the prevailing charge established for

rental of the item in January 1987, increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 6-month period ending with December 1987.

**(ii) For 1990**

For items furnished during 1990, clause (i) shall apply in the same manner as it applies to items furnished during 1989.

**(C) Replacement of items**

**(i) Establishment of reasonable useful lifetime**

In accordance with clause (iii), the Secretary shall determine and establish a reasonable useful lifetime for items of durable medical equipment for which payment may be made under this paragraph.

**(ii) Payment for replacement items**

If the reasonable lifetime of such an item, as so established, has been reached during a continuous period of medical need, or the carrier determines that the item is lost or irreparably damaged, the patient may elect to have payment for an item serving as a replacement for such item made—

(I) on a monthly basis for the rental of the replacement item in accordance with subparagraph (A); or

(II) in the case of an item for which a purchase agreement has been entered into under subparagraph (A)(iii), in a lump-sum amount for the purchase of the item.

**(iii) Length of reasonable useful lifetime**

The reasonable useful lifetime of an item of durable medical equipment under this subparagraph shall be equal to 5 years, except that, if the Secretary determines that, on the basis of prior experience in making payments for such an item under this subchapter, a reasonable useful lifetime of 5 years is not appropriate with respect to a particular item, the Secretary shall establish an alternative reasonable lifetime for such item.

**(8) Purchase price recognized for miscellaneous devices and items**

For purposes of paragraphs (6) and (7), the amount that is recognized under this paragraph as the purchase price for a covered item is the amount described in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, determined as follows:

**(A) Computation of local purchase price**

Each carrier under section 1395u of this title shall compute a base local purchase price for the item as follows:

(i) The carrier shall compute a base local purchase price, for each item described—

(I) in paragraph (6) equal to the average reasonable charge in the locality for the purchase of the item for the 12-month period ending with June 1987, or

(II) in paragraph (7) equal to the average of the purchase prices on the claims submitted on an assignment-related basis for the unused item supplied during

the 6-month period ending with December 1986.

(ii) The carrier shall compute a local purchase price, with respect to the furnishing of each particular item—

(I) in 1989 and 1990, equal to the base local purchase price computed under clause (i) increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 6-month period ending with December 1987,

(II) in 1991, equal to the local purchase price computed under this clause for the previous year, increased by the covered item update for 1991, and decreased by the percentage by which the average of the reasonable charges for claims paid for all items described in paragraph (7) is lower than the average of the purchase prices submitted for such items during the final 9 months of 1988;<sup>1</sup> or

(III) in 1992, 1993, and 1994, equal to the local purchase price computed under this clause for the previous year increased by the covered item update for the year.

**(B) Computation of national limited purchase price**

With respect to the furnishing of a particular item in a year, the Secretary shall compute a national limited purchase price—

(i) for 1991, equal to the local purchase price computed under subparagraph (A)(ii) for the item for the year, except that such national limited purchase price may not exceed 100 percent of the weighted average of all local purchase prices for the item computed under such subparagraph for the year, and may not be less than 85 percent of the weighted average of all local purchase prices for the item computed under such subparagraph for the year;

(ii) for 1992 and 1993, the amount determined under this subparagraph for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for such subsequent year;

(iii) for 1994, the local purchase price computed under subparagraph (A)(ii) for the item for the year, except that such national limited purchase price may not exceed 100 percent of the median of all local purchase prices computed for the item under such subparagraph for the year and may not be less than 85 percent of the median of all local purchase prices computed under such subparagraph for the item for the year; and

(iv) for each subsequent year, equal to the amount determined under this subparagraph for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for such subsequent year.

**(C) Purchase price recognized**

For purposes of paragraphs (6) and (7), the amount that is recognized under this paragraph as the purchase price for each item furnished—

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The semicolon probably should be a comma.

(i) in 1989 or 1990, is 100 percent of the local purchase price computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(I);

(ii) in 1991, is the sum of (I) 67 percent of the local purchase price computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) for 1991, and (II) 33 percent of the national limited purchase price computed under subparagraph (B) for 1991;

(iii) in 1992, is the sum of (I) 33 percent of the local purchase price computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(III) for 1992, and (II) 67 percent of the national limited purchase price computed under subparagraph (B) for 1992; and

(iv) in 1993 or a subsequent year, is the national limited purchase price computed under subparagraph (B) for that year.

**(9) Monthly payment amount recognized with respect to oxygen and oxygen equipment**

For purposes of paragraph (5), the amount that is recognized under this paragraph for payment for oxygen and oxygen equipment is the monthly payment amount described in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph. Such amount shall be computed separately (i) for all items of oxygen and oxygen equipment (other than portable oxygen equipment) and (ii) for portable oxygen equipment (each such group referred to in this paragraph as an "item").

**(A) Computation of local monthly payment rate**

Each carrier under this section shall compute a base local payment rate for each item as follows:

(i) The carrier shall compute a base local average monthly payment rate per beneficiary as an amount equal to (I) the total reasonable charges for the item during the 12-month period ending with December 1986, divided by (II) the total number of months for all beneficiaries receiving the item in the area during the 12-month period for which the carrier made payment for the item under this subchapter.

(ii) The carrier shall compute a local average monthly payment rate for the item applicable—

(I) to 1989 and 1990, equal to 95 percent of the base local average monthly payment rate computed under clause (i) for the item increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 6-month period ending with December 1987, or

(II) to 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994, equal to the local average monthly payment rate computed under this clause for the item for the previous year increased by the covered item increase for the year.

**(B) Computation of national limited monthly payment rate**

With respect to the furnishing of an item in a year, the Secretary shall compute a national limited monthly payment rate equal to—

(i) for 1991, the local monthly payment rate computed under subparagraph

(A)(ii)(II) for the item for the year, except that such national limited monthly payment rate may not exceed 100 percent of the weighted average of all local monthly payment rates computed for the item under such subparagraph for the year, and may not be less than 85 percent of the weighted average of all local monthly payment rates computed for the item under such subparagraph for the year;

(ii) for 1992 and 1993, the amount determined under this subparagraph for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for such subsequent year;

(iii) for 1994, the local monthly payment rate computed under subparagraph (A)(ii) for the item for the year, except that such national limited monthly payment rate may not exceed 100 percent of the median of all local monthly payment rates computed for the item under such subparagraph for the year and may not be less than 85 percent of the median of all local monthly payment rates computed for the item under such subparagraph for the year;

(iv) for 1995, 1996, and 1997, equal to the amount determined under this subparagraph for the preceding year increased by the covered item update for such subsequent year;

(v) for 1998, 75 percent of the amount determined under this subparagraph for 1997; and

(vi) for 1999 and each subsequent year, 70 percent of the amount determined under this subparagraph for 1997.

**(C) Monthly payment amount recognized**

For purposes of paragraph (5), the amount that is recognized under this paragraph as the base monthly payment amount for each item furnished—

(i) in 1989 and in 1990, is 100 percent of the local average monthly payment rate computed under subparagraph (A)(ii) for the item;

(ii) in 1991, is the sum of (I) 67 percent of the local average monthly payment rate computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) for the item for 1991, and (II) 33 percent of the national limited monthly payment rate computed under subparagraph (B)(i) for the item for 1991;

(iii) in 1992, is the sum of (I) 33 percent of the local average monthly payment rate computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) for the item for 1992, and (II) 67 percent of the national limited monthly payment rate computed under subparagraph (B)(ii) for the item for 1992; and

(iv) in a subsequent year, is the national limited monthly payment rate computed under subparagraph (B) for the item for that year.

**(D) Authority to create classes**

**(i) In general**

Subject to clause (ii), the Secretary may establish separate classes for any item of oxygen and oxygen equipment and sepa-

rate national limited monthly payment rates for each of such classes.

**(ii) Budget neutrality**

The Secretary may take actions under clause (i) only to the extent such actions do not result in expenditures for any year to be more or less than the expenditures which would have been made if such actions had not been taken.

**(10) Exceptions and adjustments**

**(A) Areas outside continental United States**

Exceptions to the amounts recognized under the previous provisions of this subsection shall be made to take into account the unique circumstances of covered items furnished in Alaska, Hawaii, or Puerto Rico.

**(B) Adjustment for inherent reasonableness**

The Secretary is authorized to apply the provisions of paragraphs (8) and (9) of section 1395u(b) of this title to covered items and suppliers of such items and payments under this subsection in an area and with respect to covered items and services for which the Secretary does not make a payment amount adjustment under paragraph (1)(F).

**(C) Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator (TENS)**

In order to permit an attending physician time to determine whether the purchase of a transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator is medically appropriate for a particular patient, the Secretary may determine an appropriate payment amount for the initial rental of such item for a period of not more than 2 months. If such item is subsequently purchased, the payment amount with respect to such purchase is the payment amount determined under paragraph (2).

**(11) Improper billing and requirement of physician order**

**(A) Improper billing for certain rental items**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, a supplier of a covered item for which payment is made under this subsection and which is furnished on a rental basis shall continue to supply the item without charge (other than a charge provided under this subsection for the maintenance and servicing of the item) after rental payments may no longer be made under this subsection. If a supplier knowingly and willfully violates the previous sentence, the Secretary may apply sanctions against the supplier under section 1395u(j)(2) of this title in the same manner such sanctions may apply with respect to a physician.

**(B) Requirement of physician order**

**(i) In general**

The Secretary is authorized to require, for specified covered items, that payment may be made under this subsection with respect to the item only if a physician enrolled under section 1395cc(j) of this title or an eligible professional under section 1395w-4(k)(3)(B) of this title that is en-

rolled under section 1395cc(j) of this title has communicated to the supplier, before delivery of the item, a written order for the item.

**(ii) Requirement for face to face encounter**

The Secretary shall require that such an order be written pursuant to the physician documenting that a physician, a physician assistant, a nurse practitioner, or a clinical nurse specialist (as those terms are defined in section 1395x(aa)(5) of this title) has had a face-to-face encounter (including through use of telehealth under subsection (m) and other than with respect to encounters that are incident to services involved) with the individual involved during the 6-month period preceding such written order, or other reasonable timeframe as determined by the Secretary.

**(12) Regional carriers**

The Secretary may designate, by regulation under section 1395u of this title, one carrier for one or more entire regions to process all claims within the region for covered items under this section.

**(13) "Covered item" defined**

In this subsection, the term "covered item" means durable medical equipment (as defined in section 1395x(n) of this title), including such equipment described in section 1395x(m)(5) of this title, but not including implantable items for which payment may be made under section 1395l(t) of this title.

**(14) Covered item update**

In this subsection, the term "covered item update" means, with respect to a year—

(A) for 1991 and 1992, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year reduced by 1 percentage point;

(B) for 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, and 1997, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year;

(C) for each of the years 1998 through 2000, 0 percentage points;

(D) for 2001, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June 2000;

(E) for 2002, 0 percentage points;

(F) for 2003, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. urban average) for the 12-month period ending with June of 2002;

(G) for 2004 through 2006—

(i) subject to clause (ii), in the case of class III medical devices described in section 360c(a)(1)(C) of title 21, the percentage increase described in subparagraph (B) for the year involved; and

(ii) in the case of covered items not described in clause (i), 0 percentage points;

(H) for 2007—

(i) subject to clause (ii), in the case of class III medical devices described in sec-

tion 360c(a)(1)(C) of title 21, the percentage change determined by the Secretary to be appropriate taking into account recommendations contained in the report of the Comptroller General of the United States under section 302(c)(1)(B) of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003; and

(ii) in the case of covered items not described in clause (i), 0 percentage points;

(I) for 2008—

(i) subject to clause (ii), in the case of class III medical devices described in section 360c(a)(1)(C) of title 21, the percentage increase described in subparagraph (B) (as applied to the payment amount for 2007 determined after the application of the percentage change under subparagraph (H)(i)); and

(ii) in the case of covered items not described in clause (i), 0 percentage points;

(J) for 2009—

(i) in the case of items and services furnished in any geographic area, if such items or services were selected for competitive acquisition in any area under the competitive acquisition program under section 1395w-3(a)(1)(B)(i)(I) of this title before July 1, 2008, including related accessories but only if furnished with such items and services selected for such competition and diabetic supplies but only if furnished through mail order, - 9.5 percent; or

(ii) in the case of other items and services, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. urban average) for the 12-month period ending with June 2008;

(K) for 2010, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. urban average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year; and

(L) for 2011 and each subsequent year—

(i) the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (United States city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year, reduced by—

(ii) the productivity adjustment described in section 1395ww(b)(3)(B)(xi)(II) of this title.

The application of subparagraph (L)(ii) may result in the covered item update under this paragraph being less than 0.0 for a year, and may result in payment rates under this subsection for a year being less than such payment rates for the preceding year.

**(15) Advance determinations of coverage for certain items**

**(A) Development of lists of items by Secretary**

The Secretary may develop and periodically update a list of items for which payment may be made under this subsection that the Secretary determines, on the basis of prior payment experience, are frequently

subject to unnecessary utilization throughout a carrier's entire service area or a portion of such area.

**(B) Development of lists of suppliers by Secretary**

The Secretary may develop and periodically update a list of suppliers of items for which payment may be made under this subsection with respect to whom—

(i) the Secretary has found that a substantial number of claims for payment under this part for items furnished by the supplier have been denied on the basis of the application of section 1395y(a)(1) of this title; or

(ii) the Secretary has identified a pattern of overutilization resulting from the business practice of the supplier.

**(C) Determinations of coverage in advance**

A carrier shall determine in advance of delivery of an item whether payment for the item may not be made because the item is not covered or because of the application of section 1395y(a)(1) of this title if—

(i) the item is included on the list developed by the Secretary under subparagraph (A);

(ii) the item is furnished by a supplier included on the list developed by the Secretary under subparagraph (B); or

(iii) the item is a customized item (other than inexpensive items specified by the Secretary) and the patient to whom the item is to be furnished or the supplier requests that such advance determination be made.

**(16) Disclosure of information and surety bond**

The Secretary shall not provide for the issuance (or renewal) of a provider number for a supplier of durable medical equipment, for purposes of payment under this part for durable medical equipment furnished by the supplier, unless the supplier provides the Secretary on a continuing basis—

(A) with—

(i) full and complete information as to the identity of each person with an ownership or control interest (as defined in section 1320a-3(a)(3) of this title) in the supplier or in any subcontractor (as defined by the Secretary in regulations) in which the supplier directly or indirectly has a 5 percent or more ownership interest; and

(ii) to the extent determined to be feasible under regulations of the Secretary, the name of any disclosing entity (as defined in section 1320a-3(a)(2) of this title) with respect to which a person with such an ownership or control interest in the supplier is a person with such an ownership or control interest in the disclosing entity; and

(B) with a surety bond in a form specified by the Secretary and in an amount that is not less than \$50,000 that the Secretary determines is commensurate with the volume of the billing of the supplier.

The Secretary may waive the requirement of a bond under subparagraph (B) in the case of a



supplier that provides a comparable surety bond under State law. The Secretary, at the Secretary's discretion, may impose the requirements of the first sentence with respect to some or all providers of items or services under part A of this subchapter or some or all suppliers or other persons (other than physicians or other practitioners, as defined in section 1395u(b)(18)(C) of this title) who furnish items or services under this part.

**(17) Prohibition against unsolicited telephone contacts by suppliers**

**(A) In general**

A supplier of a covered item under this subsection may not contact an individual enrolled under this part by telephone regarding the furnishing of a covered item to the individual unless 1 of the following applies:

(i) The individual has given written permission to the supplier to make contact by telephone regarding the furnishing of a covered item.

(ii) The supplier has furnished a covered item to the individual and the supplier is contacting the individual only regarding the furnishing of such covered item.

(iii) If the contact is regarding the furnishing of a covered item other than a covered item already furnished to the individual, the supplier has furnished at least 1 covered item to the individual during the 15-month period preceding the date on which the supplier makes such contact.

**(B) Prohibiting payment for items furnished subsequent to unsolicited contacts**

If a supplier knowingly contacts an individual in violation of subparagraph (A), no payment may be made under this part for any item subsequently furnished to the individual by the supplier.

**(C) Exclusion from program for suppliers engaging in pattern of unsolicited contacts**

If a supplier knowingly contacts individuals in violation of subparagraph (A) to such an extent that the supplier's conduct establishes a pattern of contacts in violation of such subparagraph, the Secretary shall exclude the supplier from participation in the programs under this chapter, in accordance with the procedures set forth in subsections (c), (f), and (g) of section 1320a-7 of this title.

**(18) Refund of amounts collected for certain disallowed items**

**(A) In general**

If a nonparticipating supplier furnishes to an individual enrolled under this part a covered item for which no payment may be made under this part by reason of paragraph (17)(B), the supplier shall refund on a timely basis to the patient (and shall be liable to the patient for) any amounts collected from the patient for the item, unless—

(i) the supplier establishes that the supplier did not know and could not reasonably have been expected to know that payment may not be made for the item by reason of paragraph (17)(B), or

(ii) before the item was furnished, the patient was informed that payment under

this part may not be made for that item and the patient has agreed to pay for that item.

**(B) Sanctions**

If a supplier knowingly and willfully fails to make refunds in violation of subparagraph (A), the Secretary may apply sanctions against the supplier in accordance with section 1395u(j)(2) of this title.

**(C) Notice**

Each carrier with a contract in effect under this part with respect to suppliers of covered items shall send any notice of denial of payment for covered items by reason of paragraph (17)(B) and for which payment is not requested on an assignment-related basis to the supplier and the patient involved.

**(D) Timely basis defined**

A refund under subparagraph (A) is considered to be on a timely basis only if—

(i) in the case of a supplier who does not request reconsideration or seek appeal on a timely basis, the refund is made within 30 days after the date the supplier receives a denial notice under subparagraph (C), or

(ii) in the case in which such a reconsideration or appeal is taken, the refund is made within 15 days after the date the supplier receives notice of an adverse determination on reconsideration or appeal.

**(19) Certain upgraded items**

**(A) Individual's right to choose upgraded item**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the Secretary may issue regulations under which an individual may purchase or rent from a supplier an item of upgraded durable medical equipment for which payment would be made under this subsection if the item were a standard item.

**(B) Payments to supplier**

In the case of the purchase or rental of an upgraded item under subparagraph (A)—

(i) the supplier shall receive payment under this subsection with respect to such item as if such item were a standard item; and

(ii) the individual purchasing or renting the item shall pay the supplier an amount equal to the difference between the supplier's charge and the amount under clause (i).

In no event may the supplier's charge for an upgraded item exceed the applicable fee schedule amount (if any) for such item.

**(C) Consumer protection safeguards**

Any regulations under subparagraph (A) shall provide for consumer protection standards with respect to the furnishing of upgraded equipment under subparagraph (A). Such regulations shall provide for—

(i) determination of fair market prices with respect to an upgraded item;

(ii) full disclosure of the availability and price of standard items and proof of re-

ceipt of such disclosure information by the beneficiary before the furnishing of the upgraded item;

(iii) conditions of participation for suppliers in the billing arrangement;

(iv) sanctions of suppliers who are determined to engage in coercive or abusive practices, including exclusion; and

(v) such other safeguards as the Secretary determines are necessary.

**(20) Identification of quality standards**

**(A) In general**

Subject to subparagraph (C), the Secretary shall establish and implement quality standards for suppliers of items and services described in subparagraph (D) to be applied by recognized independent accreditation organizations (as designated under subparagraph (B)) and with which such suppliers shall be required to comply in order to—

(i) furnish any such item or service for which payment is made under this part; and

(ii) receive or retain a provider or supplier number used to submit claims for reimbursement for any such item or service for which payment may be made under this subchapter.

**(B) Designation of independent accreditation organizations**

Not later than the date that is 1 year after the date on which the Secretary implements the quality standards under subparagraph (A), notwithstanding section 1395bb(a) of this title, the Secretary shall designate and approve one or more independent accreditation organizations for purposes of such subparagraph.

**(C) Quality standards**

The quality standards described in subparagraph (A) may not be less stringent than the quality standards that would otherwise apply if this paragraph did not apply and shall include consumer services standards.

**(D) Items and services described**

The items and services described in this subparagraph are the following items and services, as the Secretary determines appropriate:

(i) Covered items (as defined in paragraph (13)) for which payment may otherwise be made under this subsection.

(ii) Prosthetic devices and orthotics and prosthetics described in subsection (h)(4) of this section.

(iii) Items and services described in section 1395u(s)(2) of this title.

**(E) Implementation**

The Secretary may establish by program instruction or otherwise the quality standards under this paragraph, including subparagraph (F), after consultation with representatives of relevant parties. Such standards shall be applied prospectively and shall be published on the Internet website of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

**(F) Application of accreditation requirement**

In implementing quality standards under this paragraph—

(i) subject to clause (ii) and subparagraph (G), the Secretary shall require suppliers furnishing items and services described in subparagraph (D) on or after October 1, 2009, directly or as a subcontractor for another entity, to have submitted to the Secretary evidence of accreditation by an accreditation organization designated under subparagraph (B) as meeting applicable quality standards, except that the Secretary shall not require under this clause pharmacies to obtain such accreditation before January 1, 2010, except that the Secretary shall not require a pharmacy to have submitted to the Secretary such evidence of accreditation prior to January 1, 2011; and

(ii) in applying such standards and the accreditation requirement of clause (i) with respect to eligible professionals (as defined in section 1395w-4(k)(3)(B) of this title), and including such other persons, such as orthotists and prosthetists, as specified by the Secretary, furnishing such items and services—

(I) such standards and accreditation requirement shall not apply to such professionals and persons unless the Secretary determines that the standards being applied are designed specifically to be applied to such professionals and persons; and

(II) the Secretary may exempt such professionals and persons from such standards and requirement if the Secretary determines that licensing, accreditation, or other mandatory quality requirements apply to such professionals and persons with respect to the furnishing of such items and services.

**(G) Application of accreditation requirement to certain pharmacies**

**(i) In general**

With respect to items and services furnished on or after January 1, 2011, in implementing quality standards under this paragraph—

(I) subject to subclause (II), in applying such standards and the accreditation requirement of subparagraph (F)(i) with respect to pharmacies described in clause (ii) furnishing such items and services, such standards and accreditation requirement shall not apply to such pharmacies; and

(II) the Secretary may apply to such pharmacies an alternative accreditation requirement established by the Secretary if the Secretary determines such alternative accreditation requirement is more appropriate for such pharmacies.

**(ii) Pharmacies described**

A pharmacy described in this clause is a pharmacy that meets each of the following criteria:

(I) The total billings by the pharmacy for such items and services under this subchapter are less than 5 percent of total pharmacy sales, as determined

based on the average total pharmacy sales for the previous 3 calendar years, 3 fiscal years, or other yearly period specified by the Secretary.

(II) The pharmacy has been enrolled under section 1395cc(j) of this title as a supplier of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies, has been issued (which may include the renewal of) a provider number for at least 5 years, and for which a final adverse action (as defined in section 424.57(a) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations) has not been imposed in the past 5 years.

(III) The pharmacy submits to the Secretary an attestation, in a form and manner, and at a time, specified by the Secretary, that the pharmacy meets the criteria described in subclauses (I) and (II). Such attestation shall be subject to section 1001 of title 18.

(IV) The pharmacy agrees to submit materials as requested by the Secretary, or during the course of an audit conducted on a random sample of pharmacies selected annually, to verify that the pharmacy meets the criteria described in subclauses (I) and (II). Materials submitted under the preceding sentence shall include a certification by an accountant on behalf of the pharmacy or the submission of tax returns filed by the pharmacy during the relevant periods, as requested by the Secretary.

**(21) Special payment rule for specified items and supplies**

**(A) In general**

Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this subsection, for specified items and supplies (described in subparagraph (B)) furnished during 2005, the payment amount otherwise determined under this subsection for such specified items and supplies shall be reduced by the percentage difference between—

(i) the amount of payment otherwise determined for the specified item or supply under this subsection for 2002, and

(ii) the amount of payment for the specified item or supply under chapter 89 of title 5, as identified in the column entitled “Median FEHP Price” in the table entitled “SUMMARY OF MEDICARE PRICES COMPARED TO VA, MEDICAID, RETAIL, AND FEHP PRICES FOR 16 ITEMS” included in the Testimony of the Inspector General before the Senate Committee on Appropriations, June 12, 2002, or any subsequent report by the Inspector General.

**(B) Specified item or supply described**

For purposes of subparagraph (A), a specified item or supply means oxygen and oxygen equipment, standard wheelchairs (including standard power wheelchairs), nebulizers, diabetic supplies consisting of lancets and testing strips, hospital beds, and air mattresses, but only if the HCPCS code for the item or supply is identified in a table referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii).

**(C) Application of update to special payment amount**

The covered item update under paragraph (14) for specified items and supplies for 2006 and each subsequent year shall be applied to the payment amount under subparagraph (A) unless payment is made for such items and supplies under section 1395w-3 of this title.

**(b) Fee schedules for radiologist services**

**(1) Development**

The Secretary shall develop—

(A) a relative value scale to serve as the basis for the payment for radiologist services under this part, and

(B) using such scale and appropriate conversion factors and subject to subsection (c)(1)(A) of this section, fee schedules (on a regional, statewide, locality, or carrier service area basis) for payment for radiologist services under this part, to be implemented for such services furnished during 1989.

**(2) Consultation**

In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall regularly consult closely with the Physician Payment Review Commission, the American College of Radiology, and other organizations representing physicians or suppliers who furnish radiologist services and shall share with them the data and data analysis being used to make the determinations under paragraph (1), including data on variations in current medicare payments by geographic area, and by service and physician specialty.

**(3) Considerations**

In developing the relative value scale and fee schedules under paragraph (1), the Secretary—

(A) shall take into consideration variations in the cost of furnishing such services among geographic areas and among different sites where services are furnished, and

(B) may also take into consideration such other factors respecting the manner in which physicians in different specialties furnish such services as may be appropriate to assure that payment amounts are equitable and designed to promote effective and efficient provision of radiologist services by physicians in the different specialties.

**(4) Savings**

**(A) Budget neutral fee schedules**

The Secretary shall develop preliminary fee schedules for 1989, which are designed to result in the same amount of aggregate payments (net of any coinsurance and deductibles under sections 1395l(a)(1)(J) and 1395l(b) of this title) for radiologist services furnished in 1989 as would have been made if this subsection had not been enacted.

**(B) Initial savings**

The fee schedules established for payment purposes under this subsection for services furnished in 1989 shall be 97 percent of the amounts permitted under the preliminary fee schedules developed under subparagraph (A).

**(C) 1990 fee schedules**

For radiologist services (other than portable X-ray services) furnished under this

part during 1990, after March 31 of such year, the conversion factors used under this subsection shall be 96 percent of the conversion factors that applied under this subsection as of December 31, 1989.

**(D) 1991 fee schedules**

For radiologist services (other than portable X-ray services) furnished under this part during 1991, the conversion factors used in a locality under this subsection shall, subject to clause (vii), be reduced to the adjusted conversion factor for the locality determined as follows:

**(i) National weighted average conversion factor**

The Secretary shall estimate the national weighted average of the conversion factors used under this subsection for services furnished during 1990 beginning on April 1, using the best available data.

**(ii) Reduced national weighted average**

The national weighted average estimated under clause (i) shall be reduced by 13 percent.

**(iii) Computation of 1990 locality index relative to national average**

The Secretary shall establish an index which reflects, for each locality, the ratio of the conversion factor used in the locality under this subsection to the national weighted average estimated under clause (i).

**(iv) Adjusted conversion factor**

The adjusted conversion factor for the professional or technical component of a service in a locality is the sum of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the locally-adjusted amount determined under clause (v) and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the GPCI-adjusted amount determined under clause (vi).

**(v) Locally-adjusted amount**

For purposes of clause (iv), the locally adjusted amount determined under this clause is the product of (I) the national weighted average conversion factor computed under clause (ii), and (II) the index value established under clause (iii) for the locality.

**(vi) GPCI-adjusted amount**

For purposes of clause (iv), the GPCI-adjusted amount determined under this clause is the sum of—

(I) the product of (a) the portion of the reduced national weighted average conversion factor computed under clause (ii) which is attributable to physician work and (b) the geographic work index value for the locality (specified in Addendum C to the Model Fee Schedule for Physician Services (published on September 4, 1990, 55 Federal Register pp. 36238–36243)); and

(II) the product of (a) the remaining portion of the reduced national weighted average conversion factor computed under clause (ii), and (b) the geographic practice cost index value specified in section 1395u(b)(14)(C)(iv) of this title for the locality.

In applying this clause with respect to the professional component of a service, 80 percent of the conversion factor shall be considered to be attributable to physician work and with respect to the technical component of the service, 0 percent shall be considered to be attributable to physician work.

**(vii) Limits on conversion factor**

The conversion factor to be applied to a locality to the professional or technical component of a service shall not be reduced under this subparagraph by more than 9.5 percent below the conversion factor applied in the locality under subparagraph (C) to such component, but in no case shall the conversion factor be less than 60 percent of the national weighted average of the conversion factors (computed under clause (i)).

**(E) Rule for certain scanning services**

In the case of the technical components of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) services and computer assisted tomography (CAT) services furnished after December 31, 1990, the amount otherwise payable shall be reduced by 10 percent.

**(F) Subsequent updating**

For radiologist services furnished in subsequent years, the fee schedules shall be the schedules for the previous year updated by the percentage increase in the MEI (as defined in section 1395u(i)(3) of this title) for the year.

**(G) Nonparticipating physicians and suppliers**

Each fee schedule so established shall provide that the payment rate recognized for nonparticipating physicians and suppliers is equal to the appropriate percent (as defined in section 1395u(b)(4)(A)(iv) of this title) of the payment rate recognized for participating physicians and suppliers.

**(5) Limiting charges of nonparticipating physicians and suppliers**

**(A) In general**

In the case of radiologist services furnished after January 1, 1989, for which payment is made under a fee schedule under this subsection, if a nonparticipating physician or supplier furnishes the service to an individual entitled to benefits under this part, the physician or supplier may not charge the individual more than the limiting charge (as defined in subparagraph (B)).

**(B) "Limiting charge" defined**

In subparagraph (A), the term "limiting charge" means, with respect to a service furnished—

(i) in 1989, 125 percent of the amount specified for the service in the appropriate fee schedule established under paragraph (1),

(ii) in 1990, 120 percent of the amount specified for the service in the appropriate fee schedule established under paragraph (1), and

(iii) after 1990, 115 percent of the amount specified for the service in the appropriate fee schedule established under paragraph (1).

**(C) Enforcement**

If a physician or supplier knowingly and willfully bills in violation of subparagraph (A), the Secretary may apply sanctions against such physician or supplier in accordance with section 1395u(j)(2) of this title in the same manner as such sanctions may apply to a physician.

**(6) "Radiologist services" defined**

For the purposes of this subsection and section 1395(a)(1)(J) of this title, the term "radiologist services" only includes radiology services performed by, or under the direction or supervision of, a physician—

(A) who is certified, or eligible to be certified, by the American Board of Radiology, or

(B) for whom radiology services account for at least 50 percent of the total amount of charges made under this part.

**(c) Payment and standards for screening mammography**

**(1) In general**

With respect to expenses incurred for screening mammography (as defined in section 1395x(jj) of this title), payment may be made only—

(A) for screening mammography conducted consistent with the frequency permitted under paragraph (2); and

(B) if the screening mammography is conducted by a facility that has a certificate (or provisional certificate) issued under section 263b of this title.

**(2) Frequency covered**

**(A) In general**

Subject to revision by the Secretary under subparagraph (B)—

(i) no payment may be made under this part for screening mammography performed on a woman under 35 years of age;

(ii) payment may be made under this part for only one screening mammography performed on a woman over 34 years of age, but under 40 years of age; and

(iii) in the case of a woman over 39 years of age, payment may not be made under this part for screening mammography performed within 11 months following the month in which a previous screening mammography was performed.

**(B) Revision of frequency**

**(i) Review**

The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the National Cancer Institute, shall review periodically the appropriate frequency for performing screening mammography, based on age and such other factors as the Secretary believes to be pertinent.

**(ii) Revision of frequency**

The Secretary, taking into consideration the review made under clause (i), may re-

vide from time to time the frequency with which screening mammography may be paid for under this subsection.

**(d) Frequency limits and payment for colorectal cancer screening tests**

**(1) Screening fecal-occult blood tests**

**(A) Payment amount**

The payment amount for colorectal cancer screening tests consisting of screening fecal-occult blood tests is equal to the payment amount established for diagnostic fecal-occult blood tests under section 1395l(h) of this title.

**(B) Frequency limit**

No payment may be made under this part for a colorectal cancer screening test consisting of a screening fecal-occult blood test—

(i) if the individual is under 50 years of age; or

(ii) if the test is performed within the 11 months after a previous screening fecal-occult blood test.

**(2) Screening flexible sigmoidoscopies**

**(A) Fee schedule**

With respect to colorectal cancer screening tests consisting of screening flexible sigmoidoscopies, payment under section 1395w-4 of this title shall be consistent with payment under such section for similar or related services.

**(B) Payment limit**

In the case of screening flexible sigmoidoscopy services, payment under this part shall not exceed such amount as the Secretary specifies, based upon the rates recognized for diagnostic flexible sigmoidoscopy services.

**(C) Facility payment limit**

**(i) In general**

Notwithstanding subsections (i)(2)(A) and (t) of section 1395l of this title, in the case of screening flexible sigmoidoscopy services furnished on or after January 1, 1999, that—

(I) in accordance with regulations, may be performed in an ambulatory surgical center and for which the Secretary permits ambulatory surgical center payments under this part, and

(II) are performed in an ambulatory surgical center or hospital outpatient department,

payment under this part shall be based on the lesser of the amount under the fee schedule that would apply to such services if they were performed in a hospital outpatient department in an area or the amount under the fee schedule that would apply to such services if they were performed in an ambulatory surgical center in the same area.

**(ii) Limitation on coinsurance**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, in the case of a bene-

ficiary who receives the services described in clause (i)—

(I) in computing the amount of any applicable copayment, the computation of such coinsurance shall be based upon the fee schedule under which payment is made for the services, and

(II) the amount of such coinsurance is equal to 25 percent of the payment amount under the fee schedule described in subclause (I).

**(D) Special rule for detected lesions**

If during the course of such screening flexible sigmoidoscopy, a lesion or growth is detected which results in a biopsy or removal of the lesion or growth, payment under this part shall not be made for the screening flexible sigmoidoscopy but shall be made for the procedure classified as a flexible sigmoidoscopy with such biopsy or removal.

**(E) Frequency limit**

No payment may be made under this part for a colorectal cancer screening test consisting of a screening flexible sigmoidoscopy—

(i) if the individual is under 50 years of age; or

(ii) if the procedure is performed within the 47 months after a previous screening flexible sigmoidoscopy or, in the case of an individual who is not at high risk for colorectal cancer, if the procedure is performed within the 119 months after a previous screening colonoscopy.

**(3) Screening colonoscopy**

**(A) Fee schedule**

With respect to colorectal cancer screening test consisting of a screening colonoscopy, payment under section 1395w-4 of this title shall be consistent with payment amounts under such section for similar or related services.

**(B) Payment limit**

In the case of screening colonoscopy services, payment under this part shall not exceed such amount as the Secretary specifies, based upon the rates recognized for diagnostic colonoscopy services.

**(C) Facility payment limit**

**(i) In general**

Notwithstanding subsections (i)(2)(A) and (t) of section 1395l of this title, in the case of screening colonoscopy services furnished on or after January 1, 1999, that are performed in an ambulatory surgical center or a hospital outpatient department, payment under this part shall be based on the lesser of the amount under the fee schedule that would apply to such services if they were performed in a hospital outpatient department in an area or the amount under the fee schedule that would apply to such services if they were performed in an ambulatory surgical center in the same area.

**(ii) Limitation on coinsurance**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, in the case of a bene-

ficiary who receives the services described in clause (i)—

(I) in computing the amount of any applicable coinsurance, the computation of such coinsurance shall be based upon the fee schedule under which payment is made for the services, and

(II) the amount of such coinsurance is equal to 25 percent of the payment amount under the fee schedule described in subclause (I).

**(D) Special rule for detected lesions**

If during the course of such screening colonoscopy, a lesion or growth is detected which results in a biopsy or removal of the lesion or growth, payment under this part shall not be made for the screening colonoscopy but shall be made for the procedure classified as a colonoscopy with such biopsy or removal.

**(E) Frequency limit**

No payment may be made under this part for a colorectal cancer screening test consisting of a screening colonoscopy for individuals at high risk for colorectal cancer if the procedure is performed within the 23 months after a previous screening colonoscopy or for other individuals if the procedure is performed within the 119 months after a previous screening colonoscopy or within 47 months after a previous screening flexible sigmoidoscopy.

**(e) Accreditation requirement for advanced diagnostic imaging services**

**(1) In general**

**(A) In general**

Beginning with January 1, 2012, with respect to the technical component of advanced diagnostic imaging services for which payment is made under the fee schedule established under section 1395w-4(b) of this title and that are furnished by a supplier, payment may only be made if such supplier is accredited by an accreditation organization designated by the Secretary under paragraph (2)(B)(i).<sup>2</sup>

**(B) Advanced diagnostic imaging services defined**

In this subsection, the term “advanced diagnostic imaging services” includes—

(i) diagnostic magnetic resonance imaging, computed tomography, and nuclear medicine (including positron emission tomography); and

(ii) such other diagnostic imaging services, including services described in section 1395w-4(b)(4)(B) of this title (excluding X-ray, ultrasound, and fluoroscopy), as specified by the Secretary in consultation with physician specialty organizations and other stakeholders.

**(C) Supplier defined**

In this subsection, the term “supplier” has the meaning given such term in section 1395x(d) of this title.

<sup>2</sup> So in original. Subpar. (B) of par. (2) does not contain clauses.

**(2) Accreditation organizations****(A) Factors for designation of accreditation organizations**

The Secretary shall consider the following factors in designating accreditation organizations under subparagraph (B)(i)<sup>2</sup> and in reviewing and modifying the list of accreditation organizations designated pursuant to subparagraph (C):

(i) The ability of the organization to conduct timely reviews of accreditation applications.

(ii) Whether the organization has established a process for the timely integration of new advanced diagnostic imaging services into the organization's accreditation program.

(iii) Whether the organization uses random site visits, site audits, or other strategies for ensuring accredited suppliers maintain adherence to the criteria described in paragraph (3).

(iv) The ability of the organization to take into account the capacities of suppliers located in a rural area (as defined in section 1395ww(d)(2)(D) of this title).

(v) Whether the organization has established reasonable fees to be charged to suppliers applying for accreditation.

(vi) Such other factors as the Secretary determines appropriate.

**(B) Designation**

Not later than January 1, 2010, the Secretary shall designate organizations to accredit suppliers furnishing the technical component of advanced diagnostic imaging services. The list of accreditation organizations so designated may be modified pursuant to subparagraph (C).

**(C) Review and modification of list of accreditation organizations****(i) In general**

The Secretary shall review the list of accreditation organizations designated under subparagraph (B) taking into account the factors under subparagraph (A). Taking into account the results of such review, the Secretary may, by regulation, modify the list of accreditation organizations designated under subparagraph (B).

**(ii) Special rule for accreditations done prior to removal from list of designated accreditation organizations**

In the case where the Secretary removes an organization from the list of accreditation organizations designated under subparagraph (B), any supplier that is accredited by the organization during the period beginning on the date on which the organization is designated as an accreditation organization under subparagraph (B) and ending on the date on which the organization is removed from such list shall be considered to have been accredited by an organization designated by the Secretary under subparagraph (B) for the remaining period such accreditation is in effect.

**(3) Criteria for accreditation**

The Secretary shall establish procedures to ensure that the criteria used by an accredita-

tion organization designated under paragraph (2)(B) to evaluate a supplier that furnishes the technical component of advanced diagnostic imaging services for the purpose of accreditation of such supplier is specific to each imaging modality. Such criteria shall include—

(A) standards for qualifications of medical personnel who are not physicians and who furnish the technical component of advanced diagnostic imaging services;

(B) standards for qualifications and responsibilities of medical directors and supervising physicians, including standards that recognize the considerations described in paragraph (4);

(C) procedures to ensure that equipment used in furnishing the technical component of advanced diagnostic imaging services meets performance specifications;

(D) standards that require the supplier have procedures in place to ensure the safety of persons who furnish the technical component of advanced diagnostic imaging services and individuals to whom such services are furnished;

(E) standards that require the establishment and maintenance of a quality assurance and quality control program by the supplier that is adequate and appropriate to ensure the reliability, clarity, and accuracy of the technical quality of diagnostic images produced by such supplier; and

(F) any other standards or procedures the Secretary determines appropriate.

**(4) Recognition in standards for the evaluation of medical directors and supervising physicians**

The standards described in paragraph (3)(B) shall recognize whether a medical director or supervising physician—

(A) in a particular specialty receives training in advanced diagnostic imaging services in a residency program;

(B) has attained, through experience, the necessary expertise to be a medical director or a supervising physician;

(C) has completed any continuing medical education courses relating to such services; or

(D) has met such other standards as the Secretary determines appropriate.

**(5) Rule for accreditations made prior to designation**

In the case of a supplier that is accredited before January 1, 2010, by an accreditation organization designated by the Secretary under paragraph (2)(B) as of January 1, 2010, such supplier shall be considered to have been accredited by an organization designated by the Secretary under such paragraph as of January 1, 2012, for the remaining period such accreditation is in effect.

**(f) Reduction in payments for physician pathology services during 1991****(1) In general**

For physician pathology services furnished under this part during 1991, the prevailing charges used in a locality under this part shall be 7 percent below the prevailing charges used

in the locality under this part in 1990 after March 31.

**(2) Limitation**

The prevailing charge for the technical and professional components of an<sup>3</sup> physician pathology service furnished by a physician through an independent laboratory shall not be reduced pursuant to paragraph (1) to the extent that such reduction would reduce such prevailing charge below 115 percent of the prevailing charge for the professional component of such service when furnished by a hospital-based physician in the same locality. For purposes of the preceding sentence, an independent laboratory is a laboratory that is independent of a hospital and separate from the attending or consulting physicians' office.

**(g) Payment for outpatient critical access hospital services**

**(1) In general**

The amount of payment for outpatient critical access hospital services of a critical access hospital is equal to 101 percent of the reasonable costs of the hospital in providing such services, unless the hospital makes the election under paragraph (2).

**(2) Election of cost-based hospital outpatient service payment plus fee schedule for professional services**

A critical access hospital may elect to be paid for outpatient critical access hospital services amounts equal to the sum of the following, less the amount that such hospital may charge as described in section 1395cc(a)(2)(A) of this title:

**(A) Facility fee**

With respect to facility services, not including any services for which payment may be made under subparagraph (B), 101 percent of the reasonable costs of the critical access hospital in providing such services.

**(B) Fee schedule for professional services**

With respect to professional services otherwise included within outpatient critical access hospital services, 115 percent of such amounts as would otherwise be paid under this part if such services were not included in outpatient critical access hospital services. Subsections (x) and (y) of section 1395l of this title shall not be taken into account in determining the amounts that would otherwise be paid pursuant to the preceding sentence.

The Secretary may not require, as a condition for applying subparagraph (B) with respect to a critical access hospital, that each physician or other practitioner providing professional services in the hospital must assign billing rights with respect to such services, except that such subparagraph shall not apply to those physicians and practitioners who have not assigned such billing rights.

**(3) Disregarding charges**

The payment amounts under this subsection shall be determined without regard to the amount of the customary or other charge.

**(4) Treatment of clinical diagnostic laboratory services**

No coinsurance, deductible, copayment, or other cost-sharing otherwise applicable under this part shall apply with respect to clinical diagnostic laboratory services furnished as an outpatient critical access hospital service. Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as providing for payment for clinical diagnostic laboratory services furnished as part of outpatient critical access hospital services, other than on the basis described in this subsection. For purposes of the preceding sentence and section 1395x(mm)(3) of this title, clinical diagnostic laboratory services furnished by a critical access hospital shall be treated as being furnished as part of outpatient critical access services without regard to whether the individual with respect to whom such services are furnished is physically present in the critical access hospital, or in a skilled nursing facility or a clinic (including a rural health clinic) that is operated by a critical access hospital, at the time the specimen is collected.

**(5) Coverage of costs for certain emergency room on-call providers**

In determining the reasonable costs of outpatient critical access hospital services under paragraphs (1) and (2)(A), the Secretary shall recognize as allowable costs, amounts (as defined by the Secretary) for reasonable compensation and related costs for physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists who are on-call (as defined by the Secretary) to provide emergency services but who are not present on the premises of the critical access hospital involved, and are not otherwise furnishing services covered under this subchapter and are not on-call at any other provider or facility.

**(h) Payment for prosthetic devices and orthotics and prosthetics**

**(1) General rule for payment**

**(A) In general**

Payment under this subsection for prosthetic devices and orthotics and prosthetics shall be made in a lump-sum amount for the purchase of the item in an amount equal to 80 percent of the payment basis described in subparagraph (B).

**(B) Payment basis**

Except as provided in subparagraphs (C), (E), and (H)(i), the payment basis described in this subparagraph is the lesser of—

(i) the actual charge for the item; or

(ii) the amount recognized under paragraph (2) as the purchase price for the item.

**(C) Exception for certain public home health agencies**

Subparagraph (B)(i) shall not apply to an item furnished by a public home health agency (or by another home health agency which demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that a significant portion of its patients are low income) free of charge or at nominal charges to the public.

<sup>3</sup>So in original. Probably should be "a".



**(D) Exclusive payment rule**

Subject to subparagraph (H)(ii), this subsection shall constitute the exclusive provision of this subchapter for payment for prosthetic devices, orthotics, and prosthetics under this part or under part A of this subchapter to a home health agency.

**(E) Exception for certain items**

Payment for ostomy supplies, tracheostomy supplies, and urologicals shall be made in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subsection (a)(2) of this section.

**(F) Special payment rules for certain prosthetics and custom-fabricated orthotics****(i) In general**

No payment shall be made under this subsection for an item of custom-fabricated orthotics described in clause (ii) or for an item of prosthetics unless such item is—

(I) furnished by a qualified practitioner; and

(II) fabricated by a qualified practitioner or a qualified supplier at a facility that meets such criteria as the Secretary determines appropriate.

**(ii) Description of custom-fabricated item****(I) In general**

An item described in this clause is an item of custom-fabricated orthotics that requires education, training, and experience to custom-fabricate and that is included in a list established by the Secretary in subclause (II). Such an item does not include shoes and shoe inserts.

**(II) List of items**

The Secretary, in consultation with appropriate experts in orthotics (including national organizations representing manufacturers of orthotics), shall establish and update as appropriate a list of items to which this subparagraph applies. No item may be included in such list unless the item is individually fabricated for the patient over a positive model of the patient.

**(iii) Qualified practitioner defined**

In this subparagraph, the term “qualified practitioner” means a physician or other individual who—

(I) is a qualified physical therapist or a qualified occupational therapist;

(II) in the case of a State that provides for the licensing of orthotics and prosthetics, is licensed in orthotics or prosthetics by the State in which the item is supplied; or

(III) in the case of a State that does not provide for the licensing of orthotics and prosthetics, is specifically trained and educated to provide or manage the provision of prosthetics and custom-designed or -fabricated orthotics, and is certified by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics, Inc. or by the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification, or is credentialed

and approved by a program that the Secretary determines, in consultation with appropriate experts in orthotics and prosthetics, has training and education standards that are necessary to provide such prosthetics and orthotics.

**(iv) Qualified supplier defined**

In this subparagraph, the term “qualified supplier” means any entity that is accredited by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics, Inc. or by the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification, or accredited and approved by a program that the Secretary determines has accreditation and approval standards that are essentially equivalent to those of such Board.

**(G) Replacement of prosthetic devices and parts****(i) In general**

Payment shall be made for the replacement of prosthetic devices which are artificial limbs, or for the replacement of any part of such devices, without regard to continuous use or useful lifetime restrictions if an ordering physician determines that the provision of a replacement device, or a replacement part of such a device, is necessary because of any of the following:

(I) A change in the physiological condition of the patient.

(II) An irreparable change in the condition of the device, or in a part of the device.

(III) The condition of the device, or the part of the device, requires repairs and the cost of such repairs would be more than 60 percent of the cost of a replacement device, or, as the case may be, of the part being replaced.

**(ii) Confirmation may be required if device or part being replaced is less than 3 years old**

If a physician determines that a replacement device, or a replacement part, is necessary pursuant to clause (i)—

(I) such determination shall be controlling; and

(II) such replacement device or part shall be deemed to be reasonable and necessary for purposes of section 1395y(a)(1)(A) of this title;

except that if the device, or part, being replaced is less than 3 years old (calculated from the date on which the beneficiary began to use the device or part), the Secretary may also require confirmation of necessity of the replacement device or replacement part, as the case may be.

**(H) Application of competitive acquisition to orthotics; limitation of inherent reasonableness authority**

In the case of orthotics described in paragraph (2)(C) of section 1395w-3(a) of this title furnished on or after January 1, 2011, subject to subsection (a)(1)(G), that are included in a competitive acquisition program in a competitive acquisition area under such section—

(i) the payment basis under this subsection for such orthotics furnished in such area shall be the payment basis determined under such competitive acquisition program; and

(ii) the Secretary may use information on the payment determined under such competitive acquisition programs to adjust the payment amount otherwise recognized under subparagraph (B)(ii) for an area that is not a competitive acquisition area under section 1395w-3 of this title, and in the case of such adjustment, paragraphs (8) and (9) of section 1395u(b) of this title shall not be applied.

**(2) Purchase price recognized**

For purposes of paragraph (1), the amount that is recognized under this paragraph as the purchase price for prosthetic devices, orthotics, and prosthetics is the amount described in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, determined as follows:

**(A) Computation of local purchase price**

Each carrier under section 1395u of this title shall compute a base local purchase price for the item as follows:

(i) The carrier shall compute a base local purchase price for each item equal to the average reasonable charge in the locality for the purchase of the item for the 12-month period ending with June 1987.

(ii) The carrier shall compute a local purchase price, with respect to the furnishing of each particular item—

(I) in 1989 and 1990, equal to the base local purchase price computed under clause (i) increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (United States city average) for the 6-month period ending with December 1987, or

(II) in 1991, 1992 or 1993, equal to the local purchase price computed under this clause for the previous year increased by the applicable percentage increase for the year.

**(B) Computation of regional purchase price**

With respect to the furnishing of a particular item in each region (as defined by the Secretary), the Secretary shall compute a regional purchase price—

(i) for 1992, equal to the average (weighted by relative volume of all claims among carriers) of the local purchase prices for the carriers in the region computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) for the year, and

(ii) for each subsequent year, equal to the regional purchase price computed under this subparagraph for the previous year increased by the applicable percentage increase for the year.

**(C) Purchase price recognized**

For purposes of paragraph (1) and subject to subparagraph (D), the amount that is recognized under this paragraph as the purchase price for each item furnished—

(i) in 1989, 1990, or 1991, is 100 percent of the local purchase price computed under subparagraph (A)(ii);

(ii) in 1992, is the sum of (I) 75 percent of the local purchase price computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) for 1992, and (II) 25 percent of the regional purchase price computed under subparagraph (B) for 1992;

(iii) in 1993, is the sum of (I) 50 percent of the local purchase price computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) for 1993, and (II) 50 percent of the regional purchase price computed under subparagraph (B) for 1993; and

(iv) in 1994 or a subsequent year, is the regional purchase price computed under subparagraph (B) for that year.

**(D) Range on amount recognized**

The amount that is recognized under subparagraph (C) as the purchase price for an item furnished—

(i) in 1992, may not exceed 125 percent, and may not be lower than 85 percent, of the average of the purchase prices recognized under such subparagraph for all the carrier service areas in the United States in that year; and

(ii) in a subsequent year, may not exceed 120 percent, and may not be lower than 90 percent, of the average of the purchase prices recognized under such subparagraph for all the carrier service areas in the United States in that year.

**(3) Applicability of certain provisions relating to durable medical equipment**

Paragraphs (12), (15), and (17) and subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (10) and paragraph (11) of subsection (a) of this section shall apply to prosthetic devices, orthotics, and prosthetics in the same manner as such provisions apply to covered items under such subsection.

**(4) Definitions**

In this subsection—

(A) the term “applicable percentage increase” means—

(i) for 1991, 0 percent;

(ii) for 1992 and 1993, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (United States city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year;

(iii) for 1994 and 1995, 0 percent;

(iv) for 1996 and 1997, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (United States city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year;

(v) for each of the years 1998 through 2000, 1 percent;

(vi) for 2001, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June 2000;

(vii) for 2002, 1 percent;

(viii) for 2003, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (United States city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year;

(ix) for 2004, 2005, and 2006, 0 percent;

(x) for for<sup>4</sup> each of 2007 through 2010, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (United States city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year; and

(xi) for 2011 and each subsequent year—

(I) the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (United States city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year, reduced by—

(II) the productivity adjustment described in section 1395ww(b)(3)(B)(xi)(II) of this title.

The application of subparagraph (A)(xi)(II) may result in the applicable percentage increase under subparagraph (A) being less than 0.0 for a year, and may result in payment rates under this subsection for a year being less than such payment rates for the preceding year.

(B) the term “prosthetic devices” has the meaning given such term in section 1395x(s)(8) of this title, except that such term does not include parenteral and enteral nutrition nutrients, supplies, and equipment and does not include an implantable item for which payment may be made under section 1395(t) of this title; and

(C) the term “orthotics and prosthetics” has the meaning given such term in section 1395x(s)(9) of this title (and includes shoes described in section 1395x(s)(12) of this title), but does not include intraocular lenses or medical supplies (including catheters, catheter supplies, ostomy bags, and supplies related to ostomy care) furnished by a home health agency under section 1395x(m)(5) of this title.

**(i) Payment for surgical dressings**

**(1) In general**

Payment under this subsection for surgical dressings (described in section 1395x(s)(5) of this title) shall be made in a lump sum amount for the purchase of the item in an amount equal to 80 percent of the lesser of—

(A) the actual charge for the item; or

(B) a payment amount determined in accordance with the methodology described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subsection (a)(2) of this section (except that in applying such methodology, the national limited payment amount referred to in such subparagraphs shall be initially computed based on local payment amounts using average reasonable charges for the 12-month period ending December 31, 1992, increased by the covered item updates described in such subsection for 1993 and 1994).

**(2) Exceptions**

Paragraph (1) shall not apply to surgical dressings that are—

(A) furnished as an incident to a physician’s professional service; or

(B) furnished by a home health agency.

<sup>4</sup>So in original.

**(j) Requirements for suppliers of medical equipment and supplies**

**(1) Issuance and renewal of supplier number**

**(A) Payment**

Except as provided in subparagraph (C), no payment may be made under this part after October 31, 1994, for items furnished by a supplier of medical equipment and supplies unless such supplier obtains (and renews at such intervals as the Secretary may require) a supplier number.

**(B) Standards for possessing a supplier number**

A supplier may not obtain a supplier number unless—

(i) for medical equipment and supplies furnished on or after October 31, 1994, and before January 1, 1996, the supplier meets standards prescribed by the Secretary in regulations issued on June 18, 1992; and

(ii) for medical equipment and supplies furnished on or after January 1, 1996, the supplier meets revised standards prescribed by the Secretary (in consultation with representatives of suppliers of medical equipment and supplies, carriers, and consumers) that shall include requirements that the supplier—

(I) comply with all applicable State and Federal licensure and regulatory requirements;

(II) maintain a physical facility on an appropriate site;

(III) have proof of appropriate liability insurance; and

(IV) meet such other requirements as the Secretary may specify.

**(C) Exception for items furnished as incident to a physician’s service**

Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to medical equipment and supplies furnished incident to a physician’s service.

**(D) Prohibition against multiple supplier numbers**

The Secretary may not issue more than one supplier number to any supplier of medical equipment and supplies unless the issuance of more than one number is appropriate to identify subsidiary or regional entities under the supplier’s ownership or control.

**(E) Prohibition against delegation of supplier determinations**

The Secretary may not delegate (other than by contract under section 1395u of this title) the responsibility to determine whether suppliers meet the standards necessary to obtain a supplier number.

**(2) Certificates of medical necessity**

**(A) Limitation on information provided by suppliers on certificates of medical necessity**

**(i) In general**

Effective 60 days after October 31, 1994, a supplier of medical equipment and supplies may distribute to physicians, or to individuals entitled to benefits under this

part, a certificate of medical necessity for commercial purposes which contains no more than the following information completed by the supplier:

(I) An identification of the supplier and the beneficiary to whom such medical equipment and supplies are furnished.

(II) A description of such medical equipment and supplies.

(III) Any product code identifying such medical equipment and supplies.

(IV) Any other administrative information (other than information relating to the beneficiary's medical condition) identified by the Secretary.

**(ii) Information on payment amount and charges**

If a supplier distributes a certificate of medical necessity containing any of the information permitted to be supplied under clause (i), the supplier shall also list on the certificate of medical necessity the fee schedule amount and the supplier's charge for the medical equipment or supplies being furnished prior to distribution of such certificate to the physician.

**(iii) Penalty**

Any supplier of medical equipment and supplies who knowingly and willfully distributes a certificate of medical necessity in violation of clause (i) or fails to provide the information required under clause (ii) is subject to a civil money penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for each such certificate of medical necessity so distributed. The provisions of section 1320a-7a of this title (other than subsections (a) and (b)) shall apply to civil money penalties under this subparagraph in the same manner as they apply to a penalty or proceeding under section 1320a-7a(a) of this title.

**(B) "Certificate of medical necessity" defined**

For purposes of this paragraph, the term "certificate of medical necessity" means a form or other document containing information required by the carrier to be submitted to show that an item is reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body member.

**(3) Coverage and review criteria**

The Secretary shall annually review the coverage and utilization of items of medical equipment and supplies to determine whether such items should be made subject to coverage and utilization review criteria, and if appropriate, shall develop and apply such criteria to such items.

**(4) Limitation on patient liability**

If a supplier of medical equipment and supplies (as defined in paragraph (5))—

(A) furnishes an item or service to a beneficiary for which no payment may be made by reason of paragraph (1);

(B) furnishes an item or service to a beneficiary for which payment is denied in advance under subsection (a)(15) of this section; or

(C) furnishes an item or service to a beneficiary for which payment is denied under section 1395y(a)(1) of this title;

any expenses incurred for items and services furnished to an individual by such a supplier not on an assigned basis shall be the responsibility of such supplier. The individual shall have no financial responsibility for such expenses and the supplier shall refund on a timely basis to the individual (and shall be liable to the individual for) any amounts collected from the individual for such items or services. The provisions of subsection (a)(18) of this section shall apply to refunds required under the previous sentence in the same manner as such provisions apply to refunds under such subsection.

**(5) "Medical equipment and supplies" defined**

The term "medical equipment and supplies" means—

(A) durable medical equipment (as defined in section 1395x(n) of this title);

(B) prosthetic devices (as described in section 1395x(s)(8) of this title);

(C) orthotics and prosthetics (as described in section 1395x(s)(9) of this title);

(D) surgical dressings (as described in section 1395x(s)(5) of this title);

(E) such other items as the Secretary may determine; and

(F) for purposes of paragraphs (1) and (3)—

(i) home dialysis supplies and equipment (as described in section 1395x(s)(2)(F) of this title),

(ii) immunosuppressive drugs (as described in section 1395x(s)(2)(J) of this title),

(iii) therapeutic shoes for diabetics (as described in section 1395x(s)(12) of this title),

(iv) oral drugs prescribed for use as an anticancer therapeutic agent (as described in section 1395x(s)(2)(Q) of this title), and

(v) self-administered erythropoietin (as described in section 1395x(s)(2)(P) of this title).

**(k) Payment for outpatient therapy services and comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation services**

**(1) In general**

With respect to services described in section 1395l(a)(8) or 1395l(a)(9) of this title for which payment is determined under this subsection, the payment basis shall be—

(A) for services furnished during 1998, the amount determined under paragraph (2); or

(B) for services furnished during a subsequent year, 80 percent of the lesser of—

(i) the actual charge for the services, or

(ii) the applicable fee schedule amount (as defined in paragraph (3)) for the services.

**(2) Payment in 1998 based upon adjusted reasonable costs**

The amount under this paragraph for services is the lesser of—

(A) the charges imposed for the services, or

(B) the adjusted reasonable costs (as defined in paragraph (4)) for the services, less 20 percent of the amount of the charges imposed for such services.

**(3) Applicable fee schedule amount**

In this subsection, the term “applicable fee schedule amount” means, with respect to services furnished in a year, the amount determined under the fee schedule established under section 1395w-4 of this title for such services furnished during the year or, if there is no such fee schedule established for such services, the amount determined under the fee schedule established for such comparable services as the Secretary specifies.

**(4) Adjusted reasonable costs**

In paragraph (2), the term “adjusted reasonable costs” means, with respect to any services, reasonable costs determined for such services, reduced by 10 percent. The 10-percent reduction shall not apply to services described in section 1395l(a)(8)(B) of this title (relating to services provided by hospitals).

**(5) Uniform coding**

For claims for services submitted on or after April 1, 1998, for which the amount of payment is determined under this subsection, the claim shall include a code (or codes) under a uniform coding system specified by the Secretary that identifies the services furnished.

**(6) Restraint on billing**

The provisions of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 1395u(b)(18) of this title shall apply to therapy services for which payment is made under this subsection in the same manner as they apply to services provided by a practitioner described in section 1395u(b)(18)(C) of this title.

**(I) Establishment of fee schedule for ambulance services**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall establish a fee schedule for payment for ambulance services whether provided directly by a supplier or provider or under arrangement with a provider under this part through a negotiated rulemaking process described in title 5 and in accordance with the requirements of this subsection.

**(2) Considerations**

In establishing such fee schedule, the Secretary shall—

(A) establish mechanisms to control increases in expenditures for ambulance services under this part;

(B) establish definitions for ambulance services which link payments to the type of services provided;

(C) consider appropriate regional and operational differences;

(D) consider adjustments to payment rates to account for inflation and other relevant factors; and

(E) phase in the application of the payment rates under the fee schedule in an efficient and fair manner consistent with paragraph (1), except that such phase-in shall

provide for full payment of any national mileage rate for ambulance services provided by suppliers that are paid by carriers in any of the 50 States where payment by a carrier for such services for all such suppliers in such State did not, prior to the implementation of the fee schedule, include a separate amount for all mileage within the county from which the beneficiary is transported.

**(3) Savings**

In establishing such fee schedule, the Secretary shall—

(A) ensure that the aggregate amount of payments made for ambulance services under this part during 2000 does not exceed the aggregate amount of payments which would have been made for such services under this part during such year if the amendments made by section 4531(a) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 continued in effect, except that in making such determination the Secretary shall assume an update in such payments for 2002 equal to percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year reduced in the case of 2002 by 1.0 percentage points;

(B) set the payment amounts provided under the fee schedule for services furnished in 2001 and each subsequent year at amounts equal to the payment amounts under the fee schedule for services furnished during the previous year, increased, subject to subparagraph (C) and the succeeding sentence of this paragraph, by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year reduced in the case of 2002 by 1.0 percentage points; and

(C) for 2011 and each subsequent year, after determining the percentage increase under subparagraph (B) for the year, reduce such percentage increase by the productivity adjustment described in section 1395ww(b)(3)(B)(xi)(II) of this title.

The application of subparagraph (C) may result in the percentage increase under subparagraph (B) being less than 0.0 for a year, and may result in payment rates under the fee schedule under this subsection for a year being less than such payment rates for the preceding year.

**(4) Consultation**

In establishing the fee schedule for ambulance services under this subsection, the Secretary shall consult with various national organizations representing individuals and entities who furnish and regulate ambulance services and share with such organizations relevant data in establishing such schedule.

**(5) Limitation on review**

There shall be no administrative or judicial review under section 1395ff of this title or otherwise of the amounts established under the fee schedule for ambulance services under this subsection, including matters described in paragraph (2).

**(6) Restraint on billing**

The provisions of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 1395u(b)(18) of this title shall apply to ambulance services for which payment is made under this subsection in the same manner as they apply to services provided by a practitioner described in section 1395u(b)(18)(C) of this title.

**(7) Coding system**

The Secretary may require the claim for any services for which the amount of payment is determined under this subsection to include a code (or codes) under a uniform coding system specified by the Secretary that identifies the services furnished.

**(8) Services furnished by critical access hospitals**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, the Secretary shall pay 101 percent of the reasonable costs incurred in furnishing ambulance services if such services are furnished—

- (A) by a critical access hospital (as defined in section 1395x(mm)(1) of this title), or
- (B) by an entity that is owned and operated by a critical access hospital,

but only if the critical access hospital or entity is the only provider or supplier of ambulance services that is located within a 35-mile drive of such critical access hospital.

**(9) Transitional assistance for rural providers**

In the case of ground ambulance services furnished on or after July 1, 2001, and before January 1, 2004, for which the transportation originates in a rural area (as defined in section 1395ww(d)(2)(D) of this title) or in a rural census tract of a metropolitan statistical area (as determined under the most recent modification of the Goldsmith Modification, originally published in the Federal Register on February 27, 1992 (57 Fed. Reg. 6725)), the fee schedule established under this subsection shall provide that, with respect to the payment rate for mileage for a trip above 17 miles, and up to 50 miles, the rate otherwise established shall be increased by not less than ½ of the additional payment per mile established for the first 17 miles of such a trip originating in a rural area.

**(10) Phase-in providing floor using blend of fee schedule and regional fee schedules**

In carrying out the phase-in under paragraph (2)(E) for each level of ground service furnished in a year, the portion of the payment amount that is based on the fee schedule shall be the greater of the amount determined under such fee schedule (without regard to this paragraph) or the following blended rate of the fee schedule under paragraph (1) and of a regional fee schedule for the region involved:

- (A) For 2004 (for services furnished on or after July 1, 2004), the blended rate shall be based 20 percent on the fee schedule under paragraph (1) and 80 percent on the regional fee schedule.
- (B) For 2005, the blended rate shall be based 40 percent on the fee schedule under paragraph (1) and 60 percent on the regional fee schedule.

(C) For 2006, the blended rate shall be based 60 percent on the fee schedule under paragraph (1) and 40 percent on the regional fee schedule.

(D) For 2007, 2008, and 2009, the blended rate shall be based 80 percent on the fee schedule under paragraph (1) and 20 percent on the regional fee schedule.

(E) For 2010 and each succeeding year, the blended rate shall be based 100 percent on the fee schedule under paragraph (1).

For purposes of this paragraph, the Secretary shall establish a regional fee schedule for each of the nine census divisions (referred to in section 1395ww(d)(2) of this title) using the methodology (used in establishing the fee schedule under paragraph (1)) to calculate a regional conversion factor and a regional mileage payment rate and using the same payment adjustments and the same relative value units as used in the fee schedule under such paragraph.

**(11) Adjustment in payment for certain long trips**

In the case of ground ambulance services furnished on or after July 1, 2004, and before January 1, 2009, regardless of where the transportation originates, the fee schedule established under this subsection shall provide that, with respect to the payment rate for mileage for a trip above 50 miles the per mile rate otherwise established shall be increased by ¼ of the payment per mile otherwise applicable to miles in excess of 50 miles in such trip.

**(12) Assistance for rural providers furnishing services in low population density areas****(A) In general**

In the case of ground ambulance services furnished on or after July 1, 2004, and before January 1, 2012, for which the transportation originates in a qualified rural area (identified under subparagraph (B)(iii)), the Secretary shall provide for a percent increase in the base rate of the fee schedule for a trip established under this subsection. In establishing such percent increase, the Secretary shall estimate the average cost per trip for such services (not taking into account mileage) in the lowest quartile as compared to the average cost per trip for such services (not taking into account mileage) in the highest quartile of all rural county populations.

**(B) Identification of qualified rural areas****(i) Determination of population density in area**

Based upon data from the United States decennial census for the year 2000, the Secretary shall determine, for each rural area, the population density for that area.

**(ii) Ranking of areas**

The Secretary shall rank each such area based on such population density.

**(iii) Identification of qualified rural areas**

The Secretary shall identify those areas (in subparagraph (A) referred to as “qualified rural areas”) with the lowest popu-

lation densities that represent, if each such area were weighted by the population of such area (as used in computing such population densities), an aggregate total of 25 percent of the total of the population of all such areas.

**(iv) Rural area**

For purposes of this paragraph, the term “rural area” has the meaning given such term in section 1395ww(d)(2)(D) of this title. If feasible, the Secretary shall treat a rural census tract of a metropolitan statistical area (as determined under the most recent modification of the Goldsmith Modification, originally published in the Federal Register on February 27, 1992 (57 Fed. Reg. 6725) as a rural area for purposes of this paragraph.

**(v) Judicial review**

There shall be no administrative or judicial review under section 1395ff, 1395oo of this title, or otherwise, respecting the identification of an area under this subparagraph.

**(13) Temporary increase for ground ambulance services**

**(A) In general**

After computing the rates with respect to ground ambulance services under the other applicable provisions of this subsection, in the case of such services furnished on or after July 1, 2004, and before January 1, 2007, and for such services furnished on or after July 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2012,<sup>4</sup> for which the transportation originates in—

(i) a rural area described in paragraph (9) or in a rural census tract described in such paragraph, the fee schedule established under this section shall provide that the rate for the service otherwise established, after the application of any increase under paragraphs (11) and (12), shall be increased by 2 percent (or 3 percent if such service is furnished on or after July 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2012); and

(ii) an area not described in clause (i), the fee schedule established under this subsection shall provide that the rate for the service otherwise established, after the application of any increase under paragraph (11), shall be increased by 1 percent (or 2 percent if such service is furnished on or after July 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2012).

**(B) Application of increased payments after applicable period**

The increased payments under subparagraph (A) shall not be taken into account in calculating payments for services furnished after the applicable period specified in such subparagraph.

**(14) Providing appropriate coverage of rural air ambulance services**

**(A) In general**

The regulations described in section 1395x(s)(7) of this title shall provide, to the extent that any ambulance services (wheth-

er ground or air) may be covered under such section, that a rural air ambulance service (as defined in subparagraph (C)) is reimbursed under this subsection at the air ambulance rate if the air ambulance service—

(i) is reasonable and necessary based on the health condition of the individual being transported at or immediately prior to the time of the transport; and

(ii) complies with equipment and crew requirements established by the Secretary.

**(B) Satisfaction of requirement of medically necessary**

The requirement of subparagraph (A)(i) is deemed to be met for a rural air ambulance service if—

(i) subject to subparagraph (D), such service is requested by a physician or other qualified medical personnel (as specified by the Secretary) who certifies or reasonably determines that the individual’s condition is such that the time needed to transport the individual by land or the instability of transportation by land poses a threat to the individual’s survival or seriously endangers the individual’s health; or

(ii) such service is furnished pursuant to a protocol that is established by a State or regional emergency medical service (EMS) agency and recognized or approved by the Secretary under which the use of an air ambulance is recommended, if such agency does not have an ownership interest in the entity furnishing such service.

**(C) Rural air ambulance service defined**

For purposes of this paragraph, the term “rural air ambulance service” means fixed wing and rotary wing air ambulance service in which the point of pick up of the individual occurs in a rural area (as defined in section 1395ww(d)(2)(D) of this title) or in a rural census tract of a metropolitan statistical area (as determined under the most recent modification of the Goldsmith Modification, originally published in the Federal Register on February 27, 1992 (57 Fed. Reg. 6725)).

**(D) Limitation**

**(i) In general**

Subparagraph (B)(i) shall not apply if there is a financial or employment relationship between the person requesting the rural air ambulance service and the entity furnishing the ambulance service, or an entity under common ownership with the entity furnishing the air ambulance service, or a financial relationship between an immediate family member of such requester and such an entity.

**(ii) Exception**

Where a hospital and the entity furnishing rural air ambulance services are under common ownership, clause (i) shall not apply to remuneration (through employment or other relationship) by the hospital of the requester or immediate family member if the remuneration is for pro-

vider-based physician services furnished in a hospital (as described in section 1395xx of this title) which are reimbursed under part A of this subchapter and the amount of the remuneration is unrelated directly or indirectly to the provision of rural air ambulance services.

**(m) Payment for telehealth services**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall pay for telehealth services that are furnished via a telecommunications system by a physician (as defined in section 1395x(r) of this title) or a practitioner (described in section 1395u(b)(18)(C) of this title) to an eligible telehealth individual enrolled under this part notwithstanding that the individual physician or practitioner providing the telehealth service is not at the same location as the beneficiary. For purposes of the preceding sentence, in the case of any Federal telemedicine demonstration program conducted in Alaska or Hawaii, the term “telecommunications system” includes store-and-forward technologies that provide for the asynchronous transmission of health care information in single or multimedia formats.

**(2) Payment amount**

**(A) Distant site**

The Secretary shall pay to a physician or practitioner located at a distant site that furnishes a telehealth service to an eligible telehealth individual an amount equal to the amount that such physician or practitioner would have been paid under this subchapter had such service been furnished without the use of a telecommunications system.

**(B) Facility fee for originating site**

With respect to a telehealth service, subject to section 1395(a)(1)(U) of this title, there shall be paid to the originating site a facility fee equal to—

(i) for the period beginning on October 1, 2001, and ending on December 31, 2001, and for 2002, \$20; and

(ii) for a subsequent year, the facility fee specified in clause (i) or this clause for the preceding year increased by the percentage increase in the MEI (as defined in section 1395u(i)(3) of this title) for such subsequent year.

**(C) Telepresenter not required**

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as requiring an eligible telehealth individual to be presented by a physician or practitioner at the originating site for the furnishing of a service via a telecommunications system, unless it is medically necessary (as determined by the physician or practitioner at the distant site).

**(3) Limitation on beneficiary charges**

**(A) Physician and practitioner**

The provisions of section 1395w-4(g) of this title and subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 1395u(b)(18) of this title shall apply to a physician or practitioner receiving payment under this subsection in the same manner as they apply to physicians or practitioners under such sections.

**(B) Originating site**

The provisions of section 1395u(b)(18) of this title shall apply to originating sites receiving a facility fee in the same manner as they apply to practitioners under such section.

**(4) Definitions**

For purposes of this subsection:

**(A) Distant site**

The term “distant site” means the site at which the physician or practitioner is located at the time the service is provided via a telecommunications system.

**(B) Eligible telehealth individual**

The term “eligible telehealth individual” means an individual enrolled under this part who receives a telehealth service furnished at an originating site.

**(C) Originating site**

**(i) In general**

The term “originating site” means only those sites described in clause (ii) at which the eligible telehealth individual is located at the time the service is furnished via a telecommunications system and only if such site is located—

(I) in an area that is designated as a rural health professional shortage area under section 254e(a)(1)(A) of this title;

(II) in a county that is not included in a Metropolitan Statistical Area; or

(III) from an entity that participates in a Federal telemedicine demonstration project that has been approved by (or receives funding from) the Secretary of Health and Human Services as of December 31, 2000.

**(ii) Sites described**

The sites referred to in clause (i) are the following sites:

(I) The office of a physician or practitioner.

(II) A critical access hospital (as defined in section 1395x(mm)(1) of this title).

(III) A rural health clinic (as defined in section 1395x(aa)(2) of this title).

(IV) A Federally qualified health center (as defined in section 1395x(aa)(4) of this title).

(V) A hospital (as defined in section 1395x(e) of this title).

(VI) A hospital-based or critical access hospital-based renal dialysis center (including satellites).

(VII) A skilled nursing facility (as defined in section 1395i-3(a) of this title).

(VIII) A community mental health center (as defined in section 1395x(ff)(3)(B) of this title).

**(D) Physician**

The term “physician” has the meaning given that term in section 1395x(r) of this title.

**(E) Practitioner**

The term “practitioner” has the meaning given that term in section 1395u(b)(18)(C) of this title.



**(F) Telehealth service****(i) In general**

The term “telehealth service” means professional consultations, office visits, and office psychiatry services (identified as of July 1, 2000, by HCPCS codes 99241–99275, 99201–99215, 90804–90809, and 90862 (and as subsequently modified by the Secretary)), and any additional service specified by the Secretary.

**(ii) Yearly update**

The Secretary shall establish a process that provides, on an annual basis, for the addition or deletion of services (and HCPCS codes), as appropriate, to those specified in clause (i) for authorized payment under paragraph (1).

**(n) Authority to modify or eliminate coverage of certain preventive services**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, effective beginning on January 1, 2010, if the Secretary determines appropriate, the Secretary may—

**(1) modify—**

(A) the coverage of any preventive service described in subparagraph (A) of section 1395x(ddd)(3) of this title to the extent that such modification is consistent with the recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force; and

(B) the services included in the initial preventive physical examination described in subparagraph (B) of such section; and

(2) provide that no payment shall be made under this subchapter for a preventive service described in subparagraph (A) of such section that has not received a grade of A, B, C, or I by such Task Force.

**(o) Development and implementation of prospective payment system****(1) Development****(A) In general**

The Secretary shall develop a prospective payment system for payment for Federally qualified health center services furnished by Federally qualified health centers under this subchapter. Such system shall include a process for appropriately describing the services furnished by Federally qualified health centers and shall establish payment rates for specific payment codes based on such appropriate descriptions of services. Such system shall be established to take into account the type, intensity, and duration of services furnished by Federally qualified health centers. Such system may include adjustments, including geographic adjustments, determined appropriate by the Secretary.

**(B) Collection of data and evaluation**

By not later than January 1, 2011, the Secretary shall require Federally qualified health centers to submit to the Secretary such information as the Secretary may require in order to develop and implement the prospective payment system under this subsection, including the reporting of services using HCPCS codes.

**(2) Implementation****(A) In general**

Notwithstanding section 1395l(a)(3)(A) of this title, the Secretary shall provide, for cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 2014, for payments of prospective payment rates for Federally qualified health center services furnished by Federally qualified health centers under this subchapter in accordance with the prospective payment system developed by the Secretary under paragraph (1).

**(B) Payments****(i) Initial payments**

The Secretary shall implement such prospective payment system so that the estimated aggregate amount of prospective payment rates (determined prior to the application of section 1395l(a)(1)(Z) of this title) under this subchapter for Federally qualified health center services in the first year that such system is implemented is equal to 100 percent of the estimated amount of reasonable costs (determined without the application of a per visit payment limit or productivity screen and prior to the application of section 1395cc(a)(2)(A)(ii) of this title) that would have occurred for such services under this subchapter in such year if the system had not been implemented.

**(ii) Payments in subsequent years**

Payment rates in years after the year of implementation of such system shall be the payment rates in the previous year increased—

(I) in the first year after implementation of such system, by the percentage increase in the MEI (as defined in section 1395u(i)(3) of this title) for the year involved; and

(II) in subsequent years, by the percentage increase in a market basket of Federally qualified health center goods and services as promulgated through regulations, or if such an index is not available, by the percentage increase in the MEI (as defined in section 1395u(i)(3) of this title) for the year involved.

**(C) Preparation for PPS implementation**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may establish and implement by program instruction or otherwise the payment codes to be used under the prospective payment system under this section.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, §1834, as added and amended Pub. L. 100–203, title IV, §§4049(a)(2), 4062(b), Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330–91, 1330–100; Pub. L. 100–360, title II, §§202(b)(4), 203(c)(1)(F), 204(b), title IV, §411(a)(3)(A), (B)(ii), (C)(ii), (f)(8)(A), (B)(ii), (D), (g)(1)(A), (B), July 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 704, 722, 726, 768, 779, 781; Pub. L. 100–485, title VI, §608(d)(21)(C), (22)(A), Oct. 13, 1988, 102 Stat. 2420; Pub. L. 101–234, title II, §201(a), title III, §301(b)(1), (c)(1), Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1981, 1985; Pub. L. 101–239, title VI, §§6102(f)(1), 6105(a), 6112(a), (c), (d)(1), (e)(2), 6116(b)(2), 6140, Dec. 19,

1989, 103 Stat. 2188, 2210, 2214–2216, 2220, 2224; Pub. L. 101–508, title IV, §§ 4102(a), (d), (f), 4104(a), 4152(a)(1), (b), (c)(1)–(4)(B)(i), (e), (f)(1), (g)(1), 4153(a)(1), (2)(D), 4163(b), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388–55, 1388–57, 1388–59, 1388–74, 1388–77 to 1388–81, 1388–83, 1388–97; Pub. L. 103–66, title XIII, §§ 13542(a), 13543(a), (b), 13544(a)(1), (2), (b)(1), 13545(a), 13546, Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 587, 589, 590; Pub. L. 103–432, title I, §§ 102(e), 126(b)(1), (2), (4), (5), (g)(1), (10)(B), 131(a), 132(a), (b), 133(a)(1), 134(a)(1), 135(a)(1), (b)(1), (3), (d)(1), (e)(2)–(5), 145(a), 156(a)(2)(C), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4403, 4414–4416, 4419, 4421, 4424, 4427, 4440; Pub. L. 105–33, title IV, §§ 4101(a), (c), 4104(b)(1), 4105(b)(2), 4201(c)(5), 4312(a), (c), 4316(b), 4531(b)(2), 4541(a)(2), 4551(a), (c)(1), 4552(a), (b), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 360, 363, 367, 374, 386, 387, 392, 451, 455, 457–459; Pub. L. 106–113, div. B, § 1000(a)(6) [title II, § 201(e)(2), title III, § 321(k)(3), title IV, § 403(d)(1)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A–340, 1501A–366, 1501A–371; Pub. L. 106–554, § 1(a)(6) [title I, § 103(b), 104(b), title II, §§ 201(a), 202(a), 204(a), 205(a), 221(a), 223(b), title IV, §§ 423(a)(1), (b)(1), 425(a), 426(a), 427(a), 428(a)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A–468, 2763A–469, 2763A–481, 2763A–482, 2763A–486, 2763A–487, 2763A–518 to 2763A–520, 2763A–522; Pub. L. 108–173, title III, § 302(a), (c)(1)(A), (2), (3), (d)(1), (2), title IV, §§ 405(a)(1), (b)(1), (d)(1), 414(a)–(c)(1), (d), 415(a), title VI, § 627(b)(1), title VII, § 736(b)(4), (5), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2223, 2230–2232, 2266, 2267, 2278–2281, 2321, 2356; Pub. L. 109–171, title V, §§ 5101(a)(1), (b)(1), 5113(b), Feb. 8, 2006, 120 Stat. 37, 38, 44; Pub. L. 110–275, title I, §§ 125(b)(5), 135(a)(1), 144(b)(1), 146(a), (b)(2)(A), 148(a), 149(a), 154(a)(2)(A), (3), (4), (b)(1)(A), (d)(2), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2519, 2532, 2547–2549, 2563, 2564, 2567; Pub. L. 111–72, § 1(a), Oct. 13, 2009, 123 Stat. 2059; Pub. L. 111–148, title III, §§ 3105(a), (c), 3109(a), 3128(a), 3136(a), (b), 3401(j), (m), (n), title IV, § 4105(a), title V, §§ 5501(a)(2), (b)(2), 5502(b), title VI, §§ 6402(g)(1), 6405(a), 6407(b), 6410(b), title X, §§ 10311(a), (c), 10501(i)(1), (3)(A), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 417, 418, 426, 437, 438, 486, 487, 558, 653, 654, 759, 768, 770, 773, 942, 943, 997; Pub. L. 111–309, title I, § 106(a), (c), Dec. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3287.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Part A of this subchapter, referred to in subsecs. (a)(1)(C), (16), (h)(1)(D), and (l)(14)(D)(ii), is classified to section 1395c et seq. of this title.

Section 302(c)(1)(B) of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, referred to in subsec. (a)(14)(H)(i), is section 302(c)(1)(B) of Pub. L. 108–173, which is set out as a note under this section.

Section 4531(a) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, referred to in subsec. (l)(3)(A), is section 4531(a) of Pub. L. 105–33, which amended sections 1395u and 1395x of this title.

## CODIFICATION

Amendment of subsec. (a)(4) by Pub. L. 101–508, § 4152(c)(4)(B)(i), did not become effective pursuant to Pub. L. 101–508, § 4152(c)(4)(B)(ii), because of action of Secretary in developing specific criteria for the treatment of wheelchairs as customized items for purposes of subsec. (a)(4). See Effective Date of 1990 Amendment note below.

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1395m, act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, § 1834, as added July 30, 1965, Pub. L. 89–97, title

I, § 102(a), 79 Stat. 303, prescribed limitations on payments for home health services, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 96–499, title IX, § 930(i), Dec. 5, 1980, 94 Stat. 2631, effective with respect to services furnished on or after July 1, 1981.

## AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (a)(1)(F)(ii). Pub. L. 111–148, § 6410(b)(2)(A), inserted “(and, in the case of covered items furnished on or after January 1, 2016, subject to clause (iii), shall)” after “may”.

Subsec. (a)(1)(F)(iii). Pub. L. 111–148, § 6410(b)(1), (2)(B), (3), added cl. (iii).

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(i)(II). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3136(a)(1)(A), inserted “subclause (III) and” after “Subject to”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(i)(III). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3136(a)(1)(B), added subcl. (III).

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(iii). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3136(a)(2)(B), inserted “complex, rehabilitative” after “case of a”.

Pub. L. 111–148, § 3136(a)(2)(A), inserted “complex, rehabilitative” after “option for” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(7)(C)(ii)(II). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3136(b), struck out “(A)(ii) or” after “subparagraph”.

Subsec. (a)(11)(B). Pub. L. 111–148, § 6407(b)(1), designated existing provisions as cl. (i) and inserted heading.

Pub. L. 111–148, § 6405(a), substituted “physician enrolled under section 1395cc(j) of this title or an eligible professional under section 1395w–4(k)(3)(B) of this title that is enrolled under section 1395cc(j) of this title” for “physician”.

Subsec. (a)(11)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 111–148, § 6407(b)(2), added cl. (ii).

Subsec. (a)(14). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3401(m)(3), inserted concluding provisions.

Subsec. (a)(14)(K). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3401(m)(1), struck out “2011, 2012, and 2013,” after “2010,” and inserted “and” at the end.

Subsec. (a)(14)(L), (M). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3401(m)(2), added subpar. (L) and struck out former subpars. (L) and (M) which read as follows:

“(L) for 2014—

“(i) in the case of items and services described in subparagraph (J)(i) for which a payment adjustment has not been made under subsection (a)(1)(F)(ii) in any previous year, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. urban average) for the 12-month period ending with June 2013, plus 2.0 percentage points; or

“(ii) in the case of other items and services, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. urban average) for the 12-month period ending with June 2013; and

“(M) for a subsequent year, the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. urban average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year.”

Subsec. (a)(16)(B). Pub. L. 111–148, § 6402(g)(1), inserted “that the Secretary determines is commensurate with the volume of the billing of the supplier” after “\$50,000”.

Subsec. (a)(20)(F)(i). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3109(a)(1)(B), which directed amendment by inserting “, except that the Secretary shall not require a pharmacy to have submitted to the Secretary such evidence of accreditation prior to January 1, 2011” before semicolon “at the end”, was executed by making the insertion before “; and” to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Pub. L. 111–148, § 3109(a)(1)(A), inserted “and subparagraph (G)” after “clause (ii)”.

Subsec. (a)(20)(G). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3109(a)(2), added subpar. (G).

Subsec. (g)(2)(A). Pub. L. 111–148, § 3128(a), inserted “101 percent of” after “subparagraph (B),”.

Subsec. (g)(2)(B). Pub. L. 111–148, § 5501(b)(2), substituted “Subsections (x) and (y) of section 1395l” for “Section 1395l(x)”.

Pub. L. 111–148, § 5501(a)(2), inserted at end “Section 1395l(x) of this title shall not be taken into account in determining the amounts that would otherwise be paid pursuant to the preceding sentence.”

Subsec. (h)(4)(A). Pub. L. 111-148, §3401(n)(1)(D), inserted concluding provisions.

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(x). Pub. L. 111-148, §3401(n)(1)(B)(i), substituted “for each of 2007 through 2010” for “a subsequent year”.

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(xi). Pub. L. 111-148, §3401(n)(1)(A), (B)(ii), (C), added cl. (xi).

Subsec. (l)(3). Pub. L. 111-148, §3401(j)(4), inserted concluding provisions.

Subsec. (l)(3)(B). Pub. L. 111-148, §3401(j)(2)(A), inserted “, subject to subparagraph (C) and the succeeding sentence of this paragraph,” after “increased”.

Subsec. (l)(3)(C). Pub. L. 111-148, §3401(j)(1), (2)(B), (3), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (l)(8). Pub. L. 111-148, §3128(a), inserted “101 percent of” after “pay” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (l)(12)(A). Pub. L. 111-309, §106(c), substituted “2012” for “2011”.

Pub. L. 111-148, §1031(c), substituted “2011” for “2010, and on or after April 1, 2010, and before January 1, 2011”.

Pub. L. 111-148, §3105(c), substituted “2010, and on or after April 1, 2010, and before January 1, 2011” for “2010”.

Subsec. (l)(13)(A). Pub. L. 111-309, §106(a)(1), substituted “2012,” for “2011” in introductory provisions.

Pub. L. 111-148, §1031(a)(1), in introductory provisions, substituted “2007, and for” for “2007, for” and “2011” for “2010, and for such services furnished on or after April 1, 2010, and before January 1, 2011”.

Pub. L. 111-148, §3105(a)(1), in introductory provisions, substituted “2007, for” for “2007, and for” and “2010, and for such services furnished on or after April 1, 2010, and before January 1, 2011,” for “2010”.

Subsec. (l)(13)(A)(i), (ii). Pub. L. 111-309, §106(a)(2), substituted “January 1, 2012” for “January 1, 2011”.

Pub. L. 111-148, §1031(a)(2)(B), substituted “January 1, 2011” for “January 1, 2010”.

Pub. L. 111-148, §1031(a)(2)(A), struck out “, and on or after April 1, 2010, and before January 1, 2011” after “January 1, 2010”.

Pub. L. 111-148, §3105(a)(2), inserted “, and on or after April 1, 2010, and before January 1, 2011” after “January 1, 2010”.

Subsec. (n). Pub. L. 111-148, §5502(b), which directed the addition of subsec. (n) relating to development and implementation of prospective payment system, was repealed by Pub. L. 111-148, §10501(i)(1).

Pub. L. 111-148, §4105(a), added subsec. (n) relating to authority to modify or eliminate coverage of certain preventive services.

Subsec. (o). Pub. L. 111-148, §10501(i)(3)(A), added subsec. (o).

2009—Subsec. (a)(20)(F)(i). Pub. L. 111-72 inserted “, except that the Secretary shall not require under this clause pharmacies to obtain such accreditation before January 1, 2010” before semicolon.

2008—Subsec. (a)(1)(E)(ii). Pub. L. 110-275, §154(d)(2), substituted “1395x(r)” for “1395x(r)(1)”.

Subsec. (a)(1)(F). Pub. L. 110-275, §154(a)(3), (4)(A)(i), in introductory provisions, substituted “January 1, 2011” for “January 1, 2009” and inserted “subject to subparagraph (G),” before “that are included”.

Subsec. (a)(1)(G). Pub. L. 110-275, §154(a)(4)(A)(ii), added subpar. (G).

Subsec. (a)(5)(F). Pub. L. 110-275, §144(b)(1), substituted “Rental cap” for “Ownership of equipment” in heading, added cl. (ii), and struck out former cl. (ii) which related to transfer of title to equipment and payments for oxygen and maintenance and servicing.

Subsec. (a)(14)(J) to (M). Pub. L. 110-275, §154(a)(2)(A), added subpars. (J) to (L) and redesignated former subpar. (J) as (M).

Subsec. (a)(20)(B). Pub. L. 110-275, §125(b)(5), substituted “section 1395bb(a)” for “section 1395bb(b)”.

Subsec. (a)(20)(E). Pub. L. 110-275, §154(b)(1)(A)(i), inserted “including subparagraph (F),” after “under this paragraph,”

Subsec. (a)(20)(F). Pub. L. 110-275, §154(b)(1)(A)(ii), added subpar. (F).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 110-275, §135(a)(1), added subsec. (e).

Subsec. (g)(4). Pub. L. 110-275, §148(a), substituted “Treatment of” for “No beneficiary cost-sharing for” in heading and inserted at end “For purposes of the preceding sentence and section 1395x(mm)(3) of this title, clinical diagnostic laboratory services furnished by a critical access hospital shall be treated as being furnished as part of outpatient critical access services without regard to whether the individual with respect to whom such services are furnished is physically present in the critical access hospital, or in a skilled nursing facility or a clinic (including a rural health clinic) that is operated by a critical access hospital, at the time the specimen is collected.”

Subsec. (h)(1)(H). Pub. L. 110-275, §154(a)(3), (4)(B), in introductory provisions, substituted “January 1, 2011” for “January 1, 2009” and inserted “subject to subsection (a)(1)(G),” before “that are included”.

Subsec. (l)(13)(A). Pub. L. 110-275, §146(a)(1), inserted “and for such services furnished on or after July 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2010” after “2007,” in introductory provisions, “(or 3 percent if such service is furnished on or after July 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2010)” after “2 percent” in cl. (i), and “(or 2 percent if such service is furnished on or after July 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2010)” after “1 percent” in cl. (ii).

Subsec. (l)(13)(B). Pub. L. 110-275, §146(a)(2), substituted “applicable period” for “2006” in heading and inserted “applicable” before “period” in text.

Subsec. (l)(14)(B)(i). Pub. L. 110-275, §146(b)(2)(A), substituted “certifies or reasonably determines” for “reasonably determines or certifies”.

Subsec. (m)(4)(C)(ii)(VI) to (VIII). Pub. L. 110-275, §149(a), added subcls. (VI) to (VIII).

2006—Subsec. (a)(5)(A). Pub. L. 109-171, §5101(b)(1)(A), substituted “(E), and (F)” for “and (E)”.

Subsec. (a)(5)(F). Pub. L. 109-171, §5101(b)(1)(B), added subpar. (F).

Subsec. (a)(7)(A). Pub. L. 109-171, §5101(a)(1), amended heading and text of subpar. (A) generally, revising and restating as cls. (i) to (iv) provisions of former cls. (i) to (vi).

Subsec. (d)(2)(C)(ii). Pub. L. 109-171, §5113(b), struck out “deductible and” before “coinsurance” in heading and struck out “deductible or” before “copayment” and before “coinsurance” in subcl. (I).

Subsec. (d)(3)(C)(ii). Pub. L. 109-171, §5113(b), struck out “deductible and” before “coinsurance” in heading and struck out “deductible or” before “coinsurance” in two places in subcl. (I).

2003—Subsec. (a)(1)(B). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(d)(1)(A), substituted “Subject to subparagraph (F)(i), the payment basis” for “The payment basis” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(1)(C). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(d)(1)(B), substituted “Subject to subparagraph (F)(ii), this subsection” for “This subsection”.

Subsec. (a)(1)(E). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(a)(2), added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (a)(1)(F). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(d)(1)(C), added subpar. (F).

Subsec. (a)(10)(B). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(d)(1)(D), inserted “in an area and with respect to covered items and services for which the Secretary does not make a payment amount adjustment under paragraph (1)(F)” after “under this subsection”.

Subsec. (a)(14)(F). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(c)(1)(A)(ii), substituted “2003” for “a subsequent year” and “2002;” for “the previous year.”

Subsec. (a)(14)(G) to (J). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(c)(1)(A)(i), (iii), added subpars (G) to (J).

Subsec. (a)(17), (19). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(a)(1)(A), redesignated par. (17), relating to certain upgraded items, as (19) and transferred it to the end of subsec. (a).

Subsec. (a)(20). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(a)(1)(B), added par. (20).

Subsec. (a)(21). Pub. L. 108-173, §302(c)(2), added par. (21).

Subsec. (b)(4)(D)(iv). Pub. L. 108-173, §736(b)(4), substituted “clause (vi)” for “clauses (vi)”.

Subsec. (g)(1). Pub. L. 108-173, § 405(a)(1), inserted “equal to 101 percent of” before “the reasonable costs”.

Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 108-173, § 405(d)(1), inserted concluding provisions.

Subsec. (g)(5). Pub. L. 108-173, § 405(b)(1), in heading, inserted “certain” before “emergency” and substituted “providers” for “physicians”, and, in text, substituted “physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists who are on-call (as defined by the Secretary) to provide emergency services” for “emergency room physicians who are on-call (as defined by the Secretary)” and “services covered under this subchapter” for “physicians’ services”.

Subsec. (h)(1)(B). Pub. L. 108-173, § 302(d)(2)(A), substituted “, (E), and (H)(i)” for “and (E)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (h)(1)(D). Pub. L. 108-173, § 302(d)(2)(B), substituted “Subject to subparagraph (H)(ii), this subsection” for “This subsection”.

Subsec. (h)(1)(H). Pub. L. 108-173, § 302(d)(2)(C), added subpar. (H).

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(viii). Pub. L. 108-173, § 302(c)(3)(B), substituted “2003” for “a subsequent year”.

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(ix), (x). Pub. L. 108-173, § 302(c)(3)(A), (C), added cls. (ix) and (x).

Subsec. (h)(4)(C). Pub. L. 108-173, § 627(b)(1), inserted “(and includes shoes described in section 1395x(s)(12) of this title)” after “in section 1395x(s)(9) of this title”.

Subsec. (l)(2)(E). Pub. L. 108-173, § 414(a)(1), inserted “consistent with paragraph (11)” after “in an efficient and fair manner”.

Subsec. (l)(8), (9). Pub. L. 108-173, § 414(a)(2), redesignated par. (8), relating to transitional assistance for rural providers, as (9).

Subsec. (l)(10). Pub. L. 108-173, § 414(a)(3), added par. (10).

Subsec. (l)(11). Pub. L. 108-173, § 414(b), added par. (11).

Subsec. (l)(12). Pub. L. 108-173, § 414(c)(1), added par. (12).

Subsec. (l)(13). Pub. L. 108-173, § 414(d), added par. (13).

Subsec. (l)(14). Pub. L. 108-173, § 415(a), added par. (14).

Subsec. (m)(4)(C)(ii)(III). Pub. L. 108-173, § 736(b)(5), substituted “1395x(aa)(2)” for “1395x(aa)(s)”.

2000—Subsec. (a)(14)(C). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title IV, § 425(a)(2)], substituted “through 2000” for “through 2002” and struck out “and” at end.

Subsec. (a)(14)(D) to (F). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title IV, § 425(a)(1), (3)], added subpars. (D) and (E) and redesignated former subpar. (D) as (F).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title I, § 104(b)], amended heading and text generally, substituting present provisions for provisions which had set forth similar standards for screening mammography but had provided for payment limited to 80 percent of the least of the actual charge, a statutory fee schedule, if applicable, or the indexed dollar limit described, and which had set forth provisions relating to reduction of indexed dollar limit, application of limit in a hospital outpatient setting, and limitation of charges of nonparticipating physicians.

Subsec. (d)(2)(E)(ii). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title I, § 103(b)(1)], inserted before period at end “or, in the case of an individual who is not at high risk for colorectal cancer, if the procedure is performed within the 119 months after a previous screening colonoscopy”.

Subsec. (d)(3). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title I, § 103(b)(2)(A)], struck out “for individuals at high risk for colorectal cancer” after “colonoscopy” in heading.

Subsec. (d)(3)(A). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title I, § 103(b)(2)(B)], struck out “for individuals at high risk for colorectal cancer (as defined in section 1395x(pp)(2) of this title)” after “screening colonoscopy”.

Subsec. (d)(3)(E). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title I, § 103(b)(2)(C)], inserted before period at end “or for other individuals if the procedure is performed within the 119 months after a previous screening colonoscopy or within 47 months after a previous screening flexible sigmoidoscopy”.

Subsec. (g)(2)(B). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title II, § 202(a)], inserted “115 percent of” before “such amounts”.

Subsec. (g)(4). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title II, § 201(a)], added par. (4).

Subsec. (g)(5). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title II, § 204(a)], added par. (5).

Subsec. (h)(1)(F). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title IV, § 427(a)], added subpar. (F).

Subsec. (h)(1)(G). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title IV, § 428(a)], added subpar. (G).

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(v). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title IV, § 426(a)(2)], substituted “through 2000” for “through 2002” and struck out “and” at end.

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(vi) to (viii). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title IV, § 426(a)(1), (3)], added cls. (vi) and (vii) and redesignated former cl. (vi) as (viii).

Subsec. (l)(2)(E). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title IV, § 423(b)(1)], inserted before period at end “, except that such phase-in shall provide for full payment of any national mileage rate for ambulance services provided by suppliers that are paid by carriers in any of the 50 States where payment by a carrier for such services for all such suppliers in such State did not, prior to the implementation of the fee schedule, include a separate amount for all mileage within the county from which the beneficiary is transported”.

Subsec. (l)(3)(A), (B). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title IV, § 423(a)(1)], substituted “reduced in the case of 2002” for “reduced in the case of 2001 and 2002”.

Subsec. (l)(8). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title II, § 221(a)], added par. (8) relating to transitional assistance for rural providers.

Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title II, § 205(a)], added par. (8) relating to services furnished by critical access hospitals.

Subsec. (m). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(6) [title II, § 223(b)], added subsec. (m).

1999—Subsec. (a)(13). Pub. L. 106-113, § 1000(a)(6) [title II, § 201(e)(2)(A)], substituted “1395x(m)(5) of this title, but not including implantable items for which payment may be made under section 1395l(t) of this title” for “1395x(m)(5) of this title”.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 106-113, § 1000(a)(6) [title IV, § 403(d)(1)], amended heading and text of subsec. (g) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The amount of payment under this part for outpatient critical access hospital services is the reasonable costs of the critical access hospital in providing such services.”

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(i). Pub. L. 106-113, § 1000(a)(6) [title III, § 321(k)(3)(A)], substituted semicolon for comma at end.

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(v). Pub. L. 106-113, § 1000(a)(6) [title III, § 321(k)(3)(B)], substituted “; and” for “, and” at end.

Subsec. (h)(4)(B). Pub. L. 106-113, § 1000(a)(6) [title II, § 201(e)(2)(B)], inserted “and does not include an implantable item for which payment may be made under section 1395l(t) of this title” before the semicolon.

1997—Subsec. (a)(2)(B)(iv). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4105(b)(2), inserted before period at end “(reduced by 10 percent, in the case of a blood glucose testing strip furnished after 1997 for an individual with diabetes)”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(B)(iv). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4552(a)(2)(A), substituted “1995, 1996, and 1997” for “each subsequent year”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(B)(v), (vi). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4552(a)(1), (2)(B), (3), added cls. (v) and (vi).

Subsec. (a)(9)(D). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4552(b), which directed amendment of section 1848(a)(9) (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)(9)) by adding subpar. (D) at end, was executed by adding subpar. (D) at end of subsec. (a)(9) of this section, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Subsec. (a)(10)(B). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4316(b), substituted “The Secretary” for “For covered items furnished on or after January 1, 1991, the Secretary” and struck out “(other than subparagraph (D))” before “of section 1395u(b) of this title” and “as such provisions would otherwise apply to physicians’ services and physicians and a reasonable charge under section 1395u(b) of this title but for the application of section 1395w-4(i)(3) of this title. In applying such provisions to payments for an item under this subsection, the Secretary shall

make adjustments to the payment basis for the item described in paragraph (1)(B) if the Secretary determines (in accordance with such provisions and on the basis of prices and costs applicable at the time the item is furnished) that such payment basis is not inherently reasonable” before period at end.

Subsec. (a)(14)(B). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4551(a)(1)(B)(i), substituted “1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, and 1997” for “a subsequent year”.

Subsec. (a)(14)(C), (D). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4551(a)(1)(A), (B)(ii), (C), added subpars. (C) and (D).

Subsec. (a)(16). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4312(c), inserted at end “The Secretary, at the Secretary’s discretion, may impose the requirements of the first sentence with respect to some or all providers of items or services under part A of this subchapter or some or all suppliers or other persons (other than physicians or other practitioners, as defined in section 1395u(b)(18)(C) of this title) who furnish items or services under this part.”

Pub. L. 105-33, § 4312(a), added par. (16).

Subsec. (a)(17). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4551(c)(1), added par. (17) relating to certain upgraded items.

Subsec. (c)(1)(C). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4101(c), in introductory provisions, struck out “, subject to the deductible established under section 1395f(b) of this title,” before “be equal to 80”.

Subsec. (c)(2)(A)(iii). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4101(a)(1), amended cl. (iii) generally. Prior to amendment, cl. (iii) read as follows: “In the case of a woman over 39 years of age, but under 50 years of age, who—

“(I) is at a high risk of developing breast cancer (as determined pursuant to factors identified by the Secretary), payment may not be made under this part for a screening mammography performed within the 11 months following the month in which a previous screening mammography was performed, or

“(II) is not at a high risk of developing breast cancer, payment may not be made under this part for a screening mammography performed within the 23 months following the month in which a previous screening mammography was performed.”

Subsec. (c)(2)(A)(iv), (v). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4101(a)(2), struck out cls. (iv) and (v), which read as follows:

“(iv) In the case of a woman over 49 years of age, but under 65 years of age, payment may not be made under this part for screening mammography performed within 11 months following the month in which a previous screening mammography was performed.

“(v) In the case of a woman over 64 years of age, payment may not be made for screening mammography performed within 23 months following the month in which a previous screening mammography was performed.”

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4104(b)(1), added subsec. (d).

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4201(c)(5), amended heading and text of subsec. (g) generally. Prior to amendment, text related to payment for outpatient rural primary care hospital services as determined, in par. (1), by either the cost-based facility fee plus professional charges method or the all-inclusive rate method and, in par. (2), by the prospective payment system.

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(iv). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4551(a)(2)(B), substituted “1996 and 1997” for “a subsequent year”.

Subsec. (h)(4)(A)(v), (vi). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4551(a)(2)(A), (C), added cls. (v) and (vi).

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4541(a)(2), added subsec. (k).

Subsec. (l). Pub. L. 105-33, § 4531(b)(2), added subsec. (l).

1994—Subsec. (a)(3)(D). Pub. L. 103-432, § 135(e)(5), struck out heading and text of subpar. (D). Text read as follows: “If the reasonable useful lifetime of such an item, as established under paragraph (7)(C), has been reached during a continuous period of medical need, or the Secretary determines on the basis of investigation by the carrier that the item is lost or irreparably damaged, payment for an item serving as a replacement for such item shall be made on a monthly basis for the rental of the replacement item in accordance with subparagraph (A).”

Subsec. (a)(5)(E). Pub. L. 103-432, § 135(d)(1), substituted “pressure of 56” for “pressure of 55”.

Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 103-432, § 135(e)(2), made technical amendment to directory language of Pub. L. 101-508, § 4152(c)(2). See 1990 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(iii)(II). Pub. L. 103-432, § 135(e)(3), substituted “clause (vi)” for “clause (v)”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(C)(i). Pub. L. 103-432, § 135(e)(4), substituted “this paragraph” for “this paragraph or paragraph (3)”.

Subsec. (a)(10)(B). Pub. L. 103-432, § 134(a)(1), inserted at end “In applying such provisions to payments for an item under this subsection, the Secretary shall make adjustments to the payment basis for the item described in paragraph (1)(B) if the Secretary determines (in accordance with such provisions and on the basis of prices and costs applicable at the time the item is furnished) that such payment basis is not inherently reasonable.”

Pub. L. 103-432, § 126(g)(10)(B), substituted “would otherwise apply to physicians’ services” for “apply to physicians’ services” and inserted before period at end “but for the application of section 1395w-4(i)(3) of this title”.

Subsec. (a)(14)(A). Pub. L. 103-432, § 135(a)(1), amended subpar. (A) generally. Prior to amendment, subpar. (A) read as follows: “for 1991 and 1992, reduction of 1 percentage point; and”.

Subsec. (a)(15). Pub. L. 103-432, § 135(b)(1), amended heading and text of par. (15) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows:

“(A) DEVELOPMENT OF LIST OF ITEMS BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall develop and periodically update a list of items for which payment may be made under this subsection that the Secretary determines, on the basis of prior payment experience, are frequently subject to unnecessary utilization, and shall include in such list seat-lift mechanisms, transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulators, and motorized scooters.

“(B) DETERMINATIONS OF COVERAGE IN ADVANCE.—A carrier shall determine in advance whether payment for an item included on the list developed by the Secretary under subparagraph (A) may not be made because of the application of section 1395y(a)(1) of this title.”

Subsec. (a)(16). Pub. L. 103-432, § 131(a)(2), struck out heading and text of par. (16). Text read as follows:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A supplier of a covered item under this subsection may not distribute to physicians or to individuals entitled to benefits under this part for commercial purposes any completed or partially completed forms or other documents required by the Secretary to be submitted to show that a covered item is reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body member.

“(B) PENALTY.—Any supplier of a covered item who knowingly and willfully distributes a form or other document in violation of subparagraph (A) is subject to a civil money penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for each such form or document so distributed. The provisions of section 1320a-7a of this title (other than subsections (a) and (b)) shall apply to civil money penalties under this subparagraph in the same manner as they apply to a penalty or proceeding under section 1320a-7a(a) of this title.”

Subsec. (a)(17), (18). Pub. L. 103-432, § 132(a)(1), (2), added pars. (17) and (18).

Subsec. (b)(4)(D). Pub. L. 103-432, § 126(b)(2)(A), in introductory provisions substituted “shall, subject to clause (vii), be reduced to the adjusted conversion factor for the locality determined as follows:” for “shall be determined as follows:”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(D)(iv). Pub. L. 103-432, § 126(b)(2)(B), substituted “Adjusted conversion factor” for “Local adjustment” in heading and “The adjusted conversion factor for” for “Subject to clause (vii), the conversion factor to be applied to” in text.

Subsec. (b)(4)(D)(vii). Pub. L. 103-432, § 126(b)(2)(C), (D), struck out “under this subparagraph” after “ap-

plied to a locality” and inserted “reduced under this subparagraph by” before “more than 9.5 percent”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(E). Pub. L. 103-432, §126(b)(5), inserted heading “Rule for certain scanning services”.

Pub. L. 103-432, §126(b)(4), made technical amendment to directory language of Pub. L. 101-508, §4102(d). See 1990 Amendment note below.

Pub. L. 103-432, §126(b)(1), redesignated subpar. (E), relating to subsequent updating, as (F).

Subsec. (b)(4)(F), (G). Pub. L. 103-432, §126(b)(1), redesignated subpars. (E), relating to subsequent updating, and (F) as (F) and (G), respectively.

Subsec. (c)(1)(B). Pub. L. 103-432, §145(a)(1), substituted “is conducted by a facility that has a certificate (or provisional certificate) issued under section 263b of this title” for “meets the quality standards established under paragraph (3)”.

Subsec. (c)(1)(C)(iii). Pub. L. 103-432, §145(a)(2), substituted “paragraph (3)” for “paragraph (4)”.

Subsec. (c)(3) to (5). Pub. L. 103-432, §145(a)(3), (4), redesignated pars. (4) and (5) as (3) and (4), respectively, and struck out former par. (3) which directed Secretary to establish standards to assure the safety and accuracy of screening mammography performed under this part.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 103-432, §126(g)(1), substituted “during 1991” for “during fiscal year 1991” in heading.

Subsec. (g)(1). Pub. L. 103-432, §102(e)(1)(A), (2), substituted in introductory provisions “during a year before the prospective payment system described in paragraph (2) is in effect” for “during a year before 1993” and inserted at end “The amount of payment shall be determined under either method without regard to the amount of the customary or other charge.”

Subsec. (g)(1)(B). Pub. L. 103-432, §156(a)(2)(C), struck out “and for items and services furnished in connection with obtaining a second opinion required under section 1320c-13(c)(2) of this title, or a third opinion, if the second opinion was in disagreement with the first opinion” after “section 1395x(s)(10)(A) of this title”.

Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 103-432, §102(e)(1)(B), substituted “January 1, 1996” for “January 1, 1993”.

Subsec. (h)(3). Pub. L. 103-432, §135(b)(3), substituted “Paragraphs (12), (15), and (17)” for “Paragraphs (12) and (17)”.

Pub. L. 103-432, §132(b), substituted “Paragraphs (12) and (17)” for “Paragraph (12)”.

Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 103-432, §131(a)(1), added subsec. (j).

Subsec. (j)(4), (5). Pub. L. 103-432, §133(a)(1), added par. (4) and redesignated former par. (4) as (5).

1993—Subsec. (a)(1)(D). Pub. L. 103-66, §13545(a), substituted “45 percent” for “15 percent” after “(as previously reduced) by”.

Subsec. (a)(2)(A)(iii). Pub. L. 103-66, §13543(b), added cl. (iii).

Subsec. (a)(2)(C). Pub. L. 103-66, §13542(a)(1), in cl. (i)(II), substituted “for 1992, 1993, and 1994” for “for 1992” and “update for the year” for “update for 1992”, and in cl. (ii), struck out “and” at end of subcl. (I), added subcls. (II) and (III), and redesignated former subcl. (II) as (IV).

Subsec. (a)(3)(A). Pub. L. 103-66, §13543(a), substituted “IPPB machines and ventilators, excluding ventilators that are either continuous airway pressure devices or intermittent assist devices with continuous airway pressure devices” for “ventilators, aspirators, IPPB machines, and nebulizers”.

Subsec. (a)(3)(C). Pub. L. 103-66, §13542(a)(1), in cl. (i)(II), substituted “for 1992, 1993, and 1994” for “for 1992” and “update for the year” for “update for 1992”, and in cl. (ii), struck out “and” at end of subcl. (I), added subcls. (II) and (III), and redesignated former subcl. (II) as (IV).

Subsec. (a)(8)(A)(ii)(III). Pub. L. 103-66, §13542(a)(2)(A), substituted “1992, 1993, and 1994” for “1992”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(B)(ii) to (iv). Pub. L. 103-66, §13542(a)(2)(B), added cls. (ii) and (iii) and redesignated former cl. (ii) as (iv).

Subsec. (a)(9)(A)(ii)(II). Pub. L. 103-66, §13542(a)(3)(A), substituted “1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994” for “1991 and 1992”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(B)(ii) to (iv). Pub. L. 103-66, §13542(a)(3)(B), added cls. (ii) and (iii) and redesignated former cl. (ii) as (iv).

Subsec. (h)(1)(B). Pub. L. 103-66, §13544(a)(2), substituted “subparagraphs (C) and (E)” for “subparagraph (C)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (h)(1)(E). Pub. L. 103-66, §13544(a)(1), added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (h)(4)(A). Pub. L. 103-66, §13546, struck out “and” at end of cl. (i), substituted “1992 and 1993” for “a subsequent year” in cl. (ii), and added cls. (iii) and (iv).

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 103-66, §13544(b)(1), added subsec. (i).

1990—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-508, §4153(a)(2)(D)(i), struck out “, prosthetic devices, orthotics, and prosthetics” after “medical equipment” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(1)(D). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(a)(1), inserted before period at end “, and, in the case of a transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator furnished on or after January 1, 1991, the Secretary shall further reduce such payment amount (as previously reduced) by 15 percent”.

Subsec. (a)(2)(A). Pub. L. 101-508, §4153(a)(2)(D)(ii), substituted “(13)” for “(13)(A)”.

Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(4)(A), inserted “or” after “\$150,” in cl. (i), struck out “or” after “purchase,” in cl. (ii), and struck out cl. (iii) which read as follows: “which is a power-driven wheelchair (other than a customized wheelchair that is classified as a customized item under paragraph (4) pursuant to criteria specified by the Secretary).”

Subsec. (a)(2)(B). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(1)(A), (B), struck out “or” after “1987;” in cl. (i), added cls. (ii) to (iv), and struck out former cl. (ii) which read as follows: “in a subsequent year, is the amount specified in this subparagraph for the preceding year increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of that preceding year.”

Subsec. (a)(2)(C). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(1)(C), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (a)(3)(B). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(1)(A), (B), struck out “or” after “1987;” in cl. (i), added cls. (ii) to (iv), and struck out former cl. (ii) which read as follows: “in a subsequent year, is the amount specified in this subparagraph for the preceding year increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of that preceding year.”

Subsec. (a)(3)(C). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(1)(C), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (a)(3)(D). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(3), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(4)(B)(i), directed amendment of par. (4) by inserting at end “In the case of a wheelchair furnished on or after January 1, 1992, the wheelchair shall be treated as a customized item for purposes of this paragraph if the wheelchair has been measured, fitted, or adapted in consideration of the patient’s body size, disability, period of need, or intended use, and has been assembled by a supplier or ordered from a manufacturer who makes available customized features, modifications, or components for wheelchairs that are intended for an individual patient’s use in accordance with instructions from the patient’s physician.” The amendment did not become effective pursuant to Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(4)(B)(ii). See Effective Date of 1990 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (a)(5)(A). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(g)(1)(A), substituted “(B), (C), and (E)” for “(B) and (C)”.

Subsec. (a)(5)(E). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(g)(1)(B), added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(i). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(2)(A), as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, §135(e)(2), substituted “15

months, or, in the case of an item for which a purchase agreement has been entered into under clause (iii), a period of continuous use of longer than 13 months” for “15 months”.

Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(1), substituted “for each of the first 3 months of such period” for “for each such month” and “, and for each of the remaining months of such period is 7.5 percent of such purchase price;” for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(ii), (iii). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(2)(D), as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, §135(e)(2), added cls. (ii) and (iii). Former cls. (ii) and (iii) redesignated (iv) and (v), respectively.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(iv). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(2)(B), as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, §135(e)(2), redesignated cl. (ii) as (iv), substituted “in the case of an item for which a purchase agreement has not been entered into under clause (ii) or clause (iii), during the first 6-month period of medical need that follows the period of medical need during which payment is made under clause (i),” for “during the succeeding 6-month period of medical need,” and struck out “and” at end.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(v). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(2)(C), as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, §135(e)(2), redesignated cl. (iii) as (v), inserted at beginning “in the case of an item for which a purchase agreement has not been entered into under clause (ii) or clause (iii),” and substituted “; and” for period at end.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(vi). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(2)(E), as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, §135(e)(2), added cl. (vi).

Subsec. (a)(7)(C). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(c)(2)(F), as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, §135(e)(2), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (a)(8)(A)(ii). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(2)(A), added subcl. (II), redesignated former subcl. (II) as (III), struck out “1991 or” before “1992”, and substituted “the covered item update for the year” for “the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(B). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(2)(B), amended subpar. (B) generally. Prior to amendment, subpar. (B) read as follows: “With respect to the furnishing of a particular item in each region (as defined by the Secretary), the Secretary shall compute a regional purchase price—

“(i) for 1991 and for 1992, equal to the average (weighted by relative volume of all claims among carriers) of the local purchase prices for the carriers in the region computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) for the year, and

“(ii) for each subsequent year, equal to the regional purchase price computed under this subparagraph for the previous year increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year.”

Subsec. (a)(8)(C). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(2)(C)(ii), struck out “and subject to subparagraph (D)” after “and (7)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(8)(C)(ii). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(2)(C)(i), (iii), in subcl. (I) substituted “67 percent” for “75 percent” and in subcl. (II) substituted “33 percent” for “25 percent” and “national limited purchase price” for “regional purchase price”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(C)(iii). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(2)(C)(i), (iv), in subcl. (I) substituted “33 percent” for “50 percent” and “subparagraph (A)(ii)(III)” for “subparagraph (A)(ii)(II)” and in subcl. (II) substituted “67 percent” for “50 percent” and “national limited purchase price” for “regional purchase price”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(C)(iv). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(2)(C)(i), substituted “national limited purchase price” for “regional purchase price”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(D). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(2)(D), struck out subpar. (D) which read as follows: “The amount that is recognized under subparagraph (C) as the purchase price for an item furnished—

“(i) in 1991, may not exceed 125 percent, and may not be lower than 85 percent, of the average of the

purchase prices recognized under such subparagraph for all the carrier service areas in the United States in that year; and

“(ii) in a subsequent year, may not exceed 120 percent, and may not be lower than 90 percent, of the average of the purchase prices recognized under such subparagraph for all the carrier service areas in the United States in that year.”

Subsec. (a)(9)(A)(ii)(II). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(3)(A), substituted “the covered item increase for the year” for “the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(B). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(3)(B), amended subpar. (B) generally. Prior to amendment, subpar. (B) read as follows: “With respect to the furnishing of an item in each region (as defined by the Secretary), the Secretary shall compute a regional monthly payment rate—

“(i) for 1991 and 1992, equal to the average (weighted by relative volume of all claims among carriers) of the local monthly payment rates for the carriers in the region computed under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) for the year, and

“(ii) for each subsequent year, equal to the regional monthly payment rates computed under this subparagraph for the previous year increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year.”

Subsec. (a)(9)(C)(ii). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(3)(C)(i), (ii), in subcl. (I) substituted “67 percent” for “75 percent” and in subcl. (II) substituted “33 percent” for “25 percent” and “national limited monthly payment rate” for “regional monthly payment rate”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(C)(iii). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(3)(C)(i), (iii), in subcl. (I) substituted “33 percent” for “50 percent” and in subcl. (II) substituted “67 percent” for “50 percent”, “national limited monthly payment rate” for “regional monthly payment rate”, and “subparagraph (B)(ii)” for “subparagraph (B)(i)”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(C)(iv). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(3)(C)(i), substituted “national limited monthly payment rate” for “regional monthly payment rate”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(D). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(3)(D), struck out subpar. (D) which read as follows: “The amount that is recognized under subparagraph (C) as the base monthly payment amount for an item furnished—

“(i) in 1991, may not exceed 125 percent, and may not be lower than 85 percent, of the average of the base monthly payment amounts recognized under such subparagraph for all the carrier service areas in the United States in that year; and

“(ii) in a subsequent year, may not exceed 120 percent, and may not be lower than 90 percent, of the average of the base monthly payment amounts recognized under such subparagraph for all the carrier service areas in the United States in that year.”

Subsec. (a)(12). Pub. L. 101-508, §4152(b)(5), struck out “defined for purposes of paragraphs (8)(B) and (9)(B)” after “one or more entire regions”.

Subsec. (a)(13). Pub. L. 101-508, §4153(a)(2)(D)(iii), substituted “means durable medical equipment (as defined in section 1395x(n) of this title), including such equipment described in section 1395x(m)(5) of this title.” for “means—

“(A) durable medical equipment (as defined in section 1395x(n) of this title), including such equipment described in section 1395x(m)(5) of this title;

“(B) prosthetic devices (described in section 1395x(s)(8) of this title), but not including parenteral and enteral nutrition nutrients, supplies, and equipment; and

“(C) orthotics and prosthetics (described in section 1395x(s)(9) of this title);

but does not include intraocular lenses or medical supplies (including catheters, catheter supplies, ostomy bags, and supplies related to ostomy care) furnished by

a home health agency under section 1395x(m)(5) of this title.”

Subsec. (a)(14). Pub. L. 101–508, §4152(b)(4), added par. (14).

Subsec. (a)(15). Pub. L. 101–508, §4152(e), added par. (15).

Subsec. (a)(16). Pub. L. 101–508, §4152(f)(1), added par. (16).

Subsec. (b)(1)(B). Pub. L. 101–508, §4163(b)(1), inserted “and subject to subsection (c)(1)(A) of this section” after “conversion factors”.

Pub. L. 101–508, §4102(f), inserted “locality,” after “statewide.”

Subsec. (b)(4)(D). Pub. L. 101–508, §4102(a)(2), added subpar. (D). Former subpar. (D) redesignated (E) relating to subsequent updating.

Subsec. (b)(4)(E). Pub. L. 101–508, §4102(d), as amended by Pub. L. 103–432, §126(b)(4), added subpar. (E) relating to rule for certain scanning services.

Pub. L. 101–508, §4102(a)(1), redesignated subpar. (D), relating to subsequent updating, as (E). Former subpar. (E) redesignated (F).

Subsec. (b)(4)(F). Pub. L. 101–508, §4102(a)(1), redesignated subpar. (E) as (F).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 101–508, §4163(b)(2), added subsec. (c).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 101–508, §4104(a), amended subsec. (f) generally, substituting provisions relating to reduction in payments for physician pathology services during 1991 for provisions directing Secretary to provide for application of a fee schedule with respect to such services.

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 101–508, §4153(a)(1), added subsec. (h).

1989—Subsec. (a)(1)(D). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(c), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (a)(2)(A)(iii). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(d)(1), added cl. (iii).

Subsec. (a)(2)(B)(i), (3)(B)(i). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(a)(1), inserted “and in 1990” after “1989”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(i). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(a)(4)(A), substituted “this clause” for “this subparagraph”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(B)(i). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(a)(4)(B), inserted “in” after “rental of the item”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(a)(4)(C), substituted “clause (i) shall apply in the same manner as it applies to items furnished during 1989” for “the payment amount recognized under subparagraph (A)(i) shall not be more than the maximum amount established under clause (i), and shall not be less than the minimum amount established under such clause, for 1989, each such amount increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) for the 12-month period ending with June 1989”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(A)(i)(I). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(a)(2)(A), inserted “and 1990” after “1989”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(A)(ii)(II). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(a)(2)(B), substituted “1991 or 1992” for “1990, 1991, or 1992”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(D)(i). Pub. L. 101–239, §6140(1), substituted “1991, may not exceed 125 percent, and may not be lower than 85 percent” for “1991, may not exceed 130 percent, and may not be lower than 80 percent”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(D)(ii). Pub. L. 101–239, §6140(2), substituted “120 percent, and may not be lower than 90 percent” for “125 percent, and may not be lower than 85 percent”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(A)(ii)(I). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(a)(3)(A), inserted “and 1990” after “1989”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(A)(ii)(II). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(a)(3)(B), substituted “1991 and 1992” for “1990, 1991, and 1992”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(D)(i). Pub. L. 101–239, §6140(1), substituted “1991, may not exceed 125 percent, and may not be lower than 85 percent” for “1991, may not exceed 130 percent, and may not be lower than 80 percent”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(D)(ii). Pub. L. 101–239, §6140(2), substituted “120 percent, and may not be lower than 90 percent” for “125 percent, and may not be lower than 85 percent”.

Subsec. (a)(13). Pub. L. 101–239, §6112(e)(2), inserted before period at end “or medical supplies (including

catheters, catheter supplies, ostomy bags, and supplies related to ostomy care) furnished by a home health agency under section 1395x(m)(5) of this title”.

Subsec. (b)(1)(B). Pub. L. 101–234, §201(a), repealed Pub. L. 100–360, §204(b)(1), and provided that the provisions of law amended or repealed by such section are restored or revived as if such section had not been enacted, see 1988 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (b)(4)(A). Pub. L. 101–234, §301(b)(1), (c)(1), amended subpar. (A) identically, substituting “coinsurance and deductibles under sections 1395(a)(1)(J)” for “insurance and deductibles under section 1395n(a)(1)(I)”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(C) to (E). Pub. L. 101–239, §6105(a), added subpar. (C) and redesignated former subpars. (C) and (D) as (D) and (E), respectively.

Subsecs. (c) to (e). Pub. L. 101–234, §201(a), repealed Pub. L. 100–360, §§202(b)(4), 203(c)(1)(F), 204(b)(2), and provided that the provisions of law amended or repealed by such sections are restored or revived as if such sections had not been enacted, see 1988 Amendment notes below.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 101–239, §6102(f)(1), added subsec. (f).

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 101–239, §6116(b)(2), added subsec. (g).

1988—Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(A), inserted “items and” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a)(1)(C). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(i), inserted “or under part A of this subchapter to a home health agency” before period at end.

Subsec. (a)(2)(A). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(iii), struck out “rental” before “payments” in concluding provisions.

Subsec. (a)(2)(B)(i). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(iii), substituted “reasonable” for “allowed”.

Subsec. (a)(3)(A). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(iv), struck out the extra space appearing in text of original act after “ventilators”.

Subsec. (a)(3)(B)(i). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(iii), substituted “reasonable” for “allowable”.

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(v)–(vii), inserted “, and for that reason cannot be grouped with similar items for purposes of payment under this subchapter,” after “individual patient”, inserted cl. (A) and (B) designations, and in cl. (B), substituted “servicing” for “service” in two places.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(ii). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(vii), inserted “maintenance and” before “servicing”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(iii). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(vii), (viii), substituted “maintenance and servicing” for “service and maintenance”, and in subcl. (I) substituted “fee or fees established by the Secretary” for “fee established by the carrier”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(B)(i). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(a)(3)(A), (C)(ii), provided that subsec. (a)(7)(B)(i) of this section, as inserted by section 4062(b) of Pub. L. 100–203, is deemed to have a reference to “1987” immediately after “December”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(A)(i)(I). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(iii), substituted “reasonable” for “allowable”.

Subsec. (a)(8)(B). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(xi), as amended Pub. L. 100–485, §608(d)(22)(A)(i), substituted “(as defined by the Secretary)” for “(as defined in section 1395ww(d)(2)(D) of this title)”, and in cl. (i) struck out the comma after “1991”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(A)(ii)(I). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(ix), substituted “6-month” for “12-month”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(A)(ii)(II). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(xi), substituted “, 1991, and 1992” for “and to 1991”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(B). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(xi), as amended by Pub. L. 100–485, §608(d)(22)(A)(i), substituted “(as defined by the Secretary)” for “(as defined in section 1395ww(d)(2)(D) of this title)”, and in cl. (i) struck out the comma after “1991”.

Subsec. (a)(9)(C)(i). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(xii), substituted “subparagraph (A)(ii)” for “subparagraph (A)(ii)(I)”.

Subsec. (a)(10)(B). Pub. L. 100–360, §411(g)(1)(B)(xiii), inserted before period at end “and payments under this



subsection as such provisions apply to physicians' services and physicians and a reasonable charge under section 1395u(b) of this title".

Subsec. (a)(11)(A). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(g)(1)(B)(vii), (xiv), inserted "maintenance and" before "servicing" and substituted "section 1395u(j)(2) of this title" for "subsection (j)(2) of this section".

Subsec. (a)(12). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(g)(1)(B)(xv), as amended by Pub. L. 100-485, § 608(d)(22)(A)(i), substituted "one or more entire regions defined for purposes of paragraphs (8)(B) and (9)(B)" for "each region (as defined in section 1395ww(d)(2)(D) of this title)".

Subsec. (a)(14). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(g)(1)(B)(xvi), struck out par. (14) which read as follows: "In this subsection, any reference to the term 'carrier' includes a reference, with respect to durable medical equipment furnished by a home health agency as part of home health services, to a fiscal intermediary."

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(a)(3)(A), (B)(ii), (f)(8)(B)(ii), amended Pub. L. 100-203, § 4049(a)(2), see 1987 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (b)(1)(B). Pub. L. 100-360, § 204(b)(1), inserted "and subject to subsection (e)(1)(A) of this section" after "conversion factors".

Subsec. (b)(4)(C). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(f)(8)(D)(ii), as added by Pub. L. 100-485, § 608(d)(21)(C), substituted "For radiologist" for "Radiologist" and "1395u(i)(3) of this title" for "1395u(b)(4)(E)(i) of this title".

Subsec. (b)(4)(D), (5). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(f)(8)(D)(i), inserted "and suppliers" after "physicians" in heading.

Subsec. (b)(5)(C). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(f)(8)(D)(iii), (iv), formerly (ii), (iii), as redesignated by Pub. L. 100-485, § 608(d)(21)(C), substituted "bills" for "imposes a charge" and inserted "in the same manner as such sanctions may apply to a physician" before period at end.

Subsec. (b)(6). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(f)(8)(D)(v), formerly (iv), as redesignated by Pub. L. 100-485, § 608(d)(21)(C), substituted "and section 1395l(a)(1)(J) of this title" for "section 1395l(a)(1)(I) of this title, and section 1395u(h)(1)(B) of this title".

Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(f)(8)(A), substituted "radiology" for "radiologic".

Subsec. (b)(6)(B). Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(f)(8)(D)(vi), formerly (v), as redesignated by Pub. L. 100-485, § 608(d)(21)(C), substituted "the total amount of charges" for "billings".

Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(f)(8)(A), substituted "radiology" for "radiologic".

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 100-360, § 202(b)(4), added subsec. (c) relating to payment for covered outpatient drugs.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 100-360, § 203(c)(1)(F), added subsec. (d) relating to home intravenous drug therapy services.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 100-360, § 204(b)(2), added subsec. (e) relating to payments and standards for screening mammography.

1987—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-203, § 4049(a)(2), as amended by Pub. L. 100-360, § 411(a)(3)(A), (B)(ii), (f)(8)(B)(ii), added subsec. (b).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111-148, title III, § 3128(b), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 426, provided that: "The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 405(a) of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-173; 117 Stat. 2266)."

Pub. L. 111-148, title III, § 3136(c), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 438, provided that:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect on January 1, 2011, and shall apply to power-driven wheelchairs furnished on or after such date.

"(2) APPLICATION TO COMPETITIVE BIDDING.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall not apply to payment made for items and services furnished pursuant to contracts entered into under section 1847 of the

Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-3) prior to January 1, 2011, pursuant to the implementation of subsection (a)(1)(B)(i)(I) of such section 1847."

Amendment by section 6405(a) of Pub. L. 111-148 applicable to written orders and certifications made on or after July 1, 2010, see section 6405(d) of Pub. L. 111-148, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 125(b)(5) of Pub. L. 110-275 applicable with respect to accreditations of hospitals granted on or after the date that is 24 months after July 15, 2008, with transition rule, see section 125(d) of Pub. L. 110-275, set out as an Effective Date of 2008 Amendment; Transition Rule note under section 1395bb of this title.

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, § 144(b)(2), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2547, provided that: "The amendments made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall take effect on January 1, 2009."

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, § 146(b)(2)(B), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2548, provided that: "The amendment made by subparagraph (A) [amending this section] shall apply to services furnished on or after the date of the enactment of this Act [July 15, 2008]."

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, § 148(b), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2549, provided that: "The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to services furnished on or after July 1, 2009."

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, § 149(c), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2549, provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 1395yy of this title] shall apply to services furnished on or after January 1, 2009."

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, § 154(e), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2568, provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section, sections 1395u and 1395w-3 of this title, and provisions set out as notes under section 1395w-3 of this title] shall take effect as of June 30, 2008."

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-171, title V, § 5101(a)(2), Feb. 8, 2006, 120 Stat. 38, provided that: "The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall apply to items furnished for which the first rental month occurs on or after January 1, 2006."

Pub. L. 109-171, title V, § 5101(b)(2), Feb. 8, 2006, 120 Stat. 39, provided that:

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall take effect on January 1, 2006.

"(B) APPLICATION TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—In the case of an individual receiving oxygen equipment on December 31, 2005, for which payment is made under section 1834(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)), the 36-month period described in paragraph (5)(F)(i) of such section, as added by paragraph (1), shall begin on January 1, 2006."

Amendment by section 5113(b) of Pub. L. 109-171 applicable to services furnished on or after Jan. 1, 2007, see section 5113(c) of Pub. L. 109-171, set out as a note under section 1395l of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2003 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 405(a)(1) of Pub. L. 108-173 applicable to payments for services furnished during cost reporting periods beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2004, see section 405(a)(2) of Pub. L. 108-173, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Pub. L. 108-173, title IV, § 405(b)(2), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2266, provided that: "The amendments made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to costs incurred for services furnished on or after January 1, 2005."

Pub. L. 108-173, title IV, § 405(d)(2), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2267, provided that:

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the amendment made by paragraph (1)

[amending this section] shall apply to cost reporting periods beginning on or after July 1, 2004.

“(B) RULE OF APPLICATION.—In the case of a critical access hospital that made an election under section 1834(g)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(g)(2)) before November 1, 2003, the amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to cost reporting periods beginning on or after July 1, 2001.”

Pub. L. 108-173, title IV, §415(c), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2282, provided that: “The amendments made by this subsection [probably should be “this section”], amending this section and section 1395x of this title shall apply to services furnished on or after January 1, 2005.”

Amendment by section 627(b)(1) of Pub. L. 108-173 applicable to items furnished on or after Jan. 1, 2005, see section 627(c) of Pub. L. 108-173, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title I, §103(c)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-469, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 1395x of this title] shall apply to colorectal cancer screening services provided on or after July 1, 2001.”

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title I, §104(c)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-470, provided that: “The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) [amending this section and section 1395w-4 of this title] shall apply with respect to screening mammographies furnished on or after January 1, 2002.”

Amendment by section 1(a)(6) [title II, §201(a)] of Pub. L. 106-554 applicable to services furnished on or after Nov. 29, 1999, see section 1(a)(6) [title II, §201(c)] of Pub. L. 106-554, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title II, §202(b)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-481, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to items and services furnished on or after July 1, 2001.”

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title II, §204(b)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-482, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 2001.”

Amendment by section 1(a)(6) [title II, §205(a)] of Pub. L. 106-554 applicable to services furnished on or after Dec. 21, 2000, see section 1(a)(6) [title II, §205(c)] of Pub. L. 106-554, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title II, §221(d)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-487, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to services furnished on or after July 1, 2001. In applying such amendment to services furnished on or after such date and before January 1, 2002, the amount of the rate increase provided under such amendment shall be equal to \$1.25 per mile.”

Amendment by section 1(a)(6) [title II, §223(b)] of Pub. L. 106-554 effective for services furnished on or after Oct. 1, 2001, see section 1(a)(6) [title II, §223(e)] of Pub. L. 106-554, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title IV, §423(b)(2)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-518, provided that: “The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall apply to services furnished on or after July 1, 2001.”

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title IV, §428(c)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-522, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to items replaced on or after April 1, 2001.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1999 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 1000(a)(6) [title II, §201(e)(2)] of Pub. L. 106-113 effective as if included in enactment of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-33, except as otherwise provided, see §1000(a)(6) [title II,

§201(m)] of Pub. L. 106-113, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Amendment by section 1000(a)(6) [title III, §321(k)(3)] of Pub. L. 106-113 effective as if included in the enactment of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-33, except as otherwise provided, see section 1000(a)(6) [title III, §321(m)] of Pub. L. 106-113, set out as a note under section 1395d of this title.

Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(6) [title IV, §403(d)(2)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-371, as amended by Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title II, §201(b)(2)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-481, provided that: “Paragraphs (1) through (3) of section 1834(g) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (g) of this section] (as amended by paragraph (1)) apply for cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 2000.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 4101(a), (c) of Pub. L. 105-33 applicable to items and services furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1998, see section 4101(d) of Pub. L. 105-33, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Amendment by section 4104(b)(1) of Pub. L. 105-33 applicable to items and services furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1998, see section 4104(e) of Pub. L. 105-33, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Section 4105(d) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 1395w-4 and 1395x of this title] shall apply to items and services furnished on or after July 1, 1998.

“(2) TESTING STRIPS.—The amendment made by subsection (b)(2) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to blood glucose testing strips furnished on or after January 1, 1998.”

Amendment by section 4201(c)(5) of Pub. L. 105-33 applicable to services furnished on or after Oct. 1, 1997, see section 4201(d) of Pub. L. 105-33, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Section 4312(f)(1) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to suppliers of durable medical equipment with respect to such equipment furnished on or after January 1, 1998.”

Section 4312(f)(3) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that: “The amendments made by subsections (c) through (e) [amending this section and section 1395x of this title] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 5, 1997] and may be applied with respect to items and services furnished on or after January 1, 1998.”

Section 4316(c) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 1395u of this title] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 5, 1997].”

Amendment by section 4531(b)(2) of Pub. L. 105-33 applicable to services furnished on or after Jan. 1, 2000, see section 4531(b)(3) of Pub. L. 105-33, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Amendment by section 4541(a)(2) of Pub. L. 105-33 applicable to services furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1998, including portions of cost reporting periods occurring on or after such date, except that subsec. (k) of this section inapplicable to services described in section 1395f(a)(8)(B) of this title that are furnished during 1998, see section 4541(e) of Pub. L. 105-33, set out as a note under section 1395f of this title.

Section 4551(c)(2) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that: “The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall apply to purchases or rentals after the effective date of any regulations issued pursuant to such amendment.”

Section 4552(e) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that:

“(1) OXYGEN.—The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to items furnished on and after January 1, 1998.

“(2) OTHER PROVISIONS.—The amendments made by this section other than subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 5, 1997].”

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Section 126(i) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that: "Except as provided in subsection (h) [amending section 1395u of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 1395u and 1395w-4 of this title, and amending provisions set out as a note under section 1395w-4 of this title], the amendments made by this section and the provisions of this section [amending this section and sections 1395u, 1395w-1, and 1395w-4 of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 1395u and 1395w-4 of this title, and amending provisions set out as notes under this section and sections 1395u and 1395w-4 of this title] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of OBRA-1990 [Pub. L. 101-508]."

Section 131(a)(2) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that the amendment made by that section is effective 60 days after Oct. 31, 1994.

Section 132(c) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that: "The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) [amending this section] shall apply to items furnished after the expiration of the 60-day period that begins on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 31, 1994]."

Section 133(c) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 1395m and 1395pp of this title] shall apply to items or services furnished on or after January 1, 1995."

Section 134(a)(2) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that: "The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 31, 1994]."

Section 135(a)(2) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that: "The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall be effective on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 31, 1994]."

Section 135(b)(1) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that the amendment made by that section is effective Oct. 31, 1994.

Section 135(b)(3) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that the amendment made by that section is effective Oct. 31, 1994.

Section 135(d)(2) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that: "The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall be effective on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 31, 1994]."

Section 135(e)(8) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that: "The amendments made by this subsection [amending this section and provisions set out as notes under this section and section 1395cc of this title] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of OBRA-1990 [Pub. L. 101-508]."

Section 145(d) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 1395x to 1395bb of this title] shall apply to mammography furnished by a facility on and after the first date that the certificate requirements of section 354(b) of the Public Health Service Act [section 263b(b) of this title] apply to such mammography conducted by such facility."

Amendment by section 156(a)(2)(C) of Pub. L. 103-432 applicable to services provided on or after Oct. 31, 1994, see section 156(a)(3) of Pub. L. 103-432, set out as a note under section 1320c-3 of this title.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Section 13542(b) of Pub. L. 103-66 provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to items furnished on or after January 1, 1994."

Section 13543(c) of Pub. L. 103-66 provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to items furnished on or after January 1, 1994."

Section 13544(a)(3) of Pub. L. 103-66 provided that: "The amendments made by this subsection [amending this section] shall apply to items furnished on or after January 1, 1994."

Amendment by section 13544(b)(1) of Pub. L. 103-66 applicable to items furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1994, see

section 13544(b)(3) of Pub. L. 103-66, set out as a note under section 1395l of this title.

Section 13545(b) of Pub. L. 103-66 provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to items furnished on or after January 1, 1994."

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Section 4102(i) of Pub. L. 101-508 provided that:

"(1) Except as otherwise provided, the amendments made by this section [amending this section, section 1395w-4 of this title, and provisions set out as a note below] shall apply to services furnished on or after January 1, 1991.

"(2) The amendment made by subsection (f) [amending this section] shall be effective as if included in the enactment of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 [Pub. L. 100-203]."

Amendment by section 4104(a) of Pub. L. 101-508 applicable to services furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1991, see section 4104(d) of Pub. L. 101-508, set out as a note under section 1395l of this title.

Section 4152(a)(3) of Pub. L. 101-508, as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, title I, §135(e)(1), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4424, provided that: "The amendments made by this subsection [amending this section and section 1395x of this title] shall apply to items furnished on or after January 1, 1991."

Section 4152(c)(4)(B)(ii) of Pub. L. 101-508 provided that: "The amendment made by clause (i) [amending this section] shall apply to items furnished on or after January 1, 1992, unless the Secretary develops specific criteria before that date for the treatment of wheelchairs as customized items for purposes of section 1834(a)(4) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (a)(4) of this section] (in which case the amendment made by such clause shall not become effective)." [Criteria established by Secretary Nov. 1, 1991, see 56 F.R. 65995, Dec. 20, 1991, 42 CFR §414.224.]

Section 4152(f)(2) of Pub. L. 101-508 provided that: "The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall apply to forms and documents distributed on or after January 1, 1991."

Section 4152(g)(2) of Pub. L. 101-508 provided that: "The amendments made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall apply to patients who first receive home oxygen therapy services on or after January 1, 1991."

Section 4152(i) of Pub. L. 101-508 provided that: "Except as otherwise provided, the amendments made by this section [amending this section, section 1395x of this title, and provisions set out as a note under section 1395f of this title] shall apply to items furnished on or after January 1, 1991."

Amendment by section 4153(a)(1), (2)(D) of Pub. L. 101-508 applicable to items furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1991, see section 4153(a)(3) of Pub. L. 101-508, set out as a note under section 1395k of this title.

Amendment by section 4163(b) of Pub. L. 101-508 applicable to screening mammography performed on or after Jan. 1, 1991, see section 4163(e) of Pub. L. 101-508, set out as a note under section 1395l of this title.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1989 AMENDMENTS

Amendment by section 6102(f)(1) of Pub. L. 101-239 applicable to services furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1991, see section 6102(f)(3) of Pub. L. 101-239, set out as a note under section 1395l of this title.

Section 6112(e)(4) of Pub. L. 101-239 provided that: "The amendments made by this subsection [amending this section and sections 1395x and 1395cc of this title] shall apply with respect to items furnished on or after January 1, 1990."

Amendment by section 201(a) of Pub. L. 101-234 effective Jan. 1, 1990, see section 201(c) of Pub. L. 101-234, set out as a note under section 1320a-7a of this title.

Section 301(b)(1), (c)(1) of Pub. L. 101-234 provided that the amendments made by that section are effective as if included in the enactment of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987, Pub. L. 100-203.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENTS

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-485 effective as if included in the enactment of the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988, Pub. L. 100-360, see section 608(g)(1) of Pub. L. 100-485, set out as a note under section 704 of this title.

Amendment by section 202(b)(4) of Pub. L. 100-360 applicable to items dispensed on or after Jan. 1, 1990, see section 202(m)(1) of Pub. L. 100-360, set out as a note under section 1395u of this title.

Amendment by section 203(c)(1)(F) of Pub. L. 100-360 applicable to items and services furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1990, see section 203(g) of Pub. L. 100-360, set out as a note under section 1320c-3 of this title.

Section 204(e) of Pub. L. 100-360, which provided that the amendments made by section 204 of Pub. L. 100-360 [amending this section and sections 1395f, 1395x to 1395z, 1395aa, 1395bb, 1396a, and 1396n of this title] applied to screening mammography performed on or after January 1, 1990, and that subsec. (e)(5) of this section only applied until such time as the Secretary of Health and Human Services implemented the physician fee schedules based on relative value scale developed under section 1395w-1(e) of this title, was repealed by Pub. L. 101-234, title II, §201(a), Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1981.

Except as specifically provided in section 411 of Pub. L. 100-360, amendment by section 411(a)(3)(A), (B)(ii), (C)(ii), (f)(8)(A), (B)(ii), (D), (g)(1)(A) and (B) of Pub. L. 100-360, as it relates to a provision in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987, Pub. L. 100-203, effective as if included in the enactment of that provision in Pub. L. 100-203, see section 411(a) of Pub. L. 100-360, set out as a Reference to OBRA; Effective Date note under section 106 of Title 1, General Provisions.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1987 AMENDMENT

Section 4049(b)(2) of Pub. L. 100-203, as amended by Pub. L. 101-239, title VI, §6102(e)(6)(B), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2188; Pub. L. 101-508, title IV, §4118(h)(2), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-70, provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 1395f of this title] shall apply to services performed on or after April 1, 1989."

[Section 4118(h) of Pub. L. 101-508 provided that the amendment by that section to section 4049(b)(2) of Pub. L. 100-203, set out above, is effective as if included in enactment of Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987, Pub. L. 100-203.]

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Subsection (a) of this section applicable to covered items (other than oxygen and oxygen equipment) furnished on or after Jan. 1, 1989, and to oxygen and oxygen equipment furnished on or after June 1, 1989, see section 4062(e) of Pub. L. 100-203, set out as an Effective Date of 1987 Amendment note under section 1395f of this title.

## REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title IV, §427(b)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-521, provided that: "Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000], the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall promulgate revised regulations to carry out the amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] using a negotiated rulemaking process under subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code."

## CONSTRUCTION OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111-148, title III, §3109(c), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 420, provided that: "Nothing in the provisions of or amendments made by this section [amending this section and enacting provisions set out as a note under this section] shall be construed as affecting the application of an accreditation requirement for pharmacies to qualify for bidding in a competitive acquisition area under section 1847 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-3)."

Pub. L. 111-148, title IV, §4105(b), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 559, provided that: "Nothing in the amendment made by paragraph (1) [probably means subsec. (a), amending this section] shall be construed to affect the coverage of diagnostic or treatment services under title XVIII of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.]."

## CONSTRUCTION OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111-72, §1(b), Oct. 13, 2009, 123 Stat. 2059, provided that: "Nothing in subsection (a) [amending this section] shall be construed as affecting the application of an accreditation requirement for pharmacies to qualify for bidding in a competitive acquisition area under section 1847 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-3)."

## CONSTRUCTION OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, §154(b)(1)(B), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2565, provided that: "Section 1834(a)(20)(F)(ii) of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)(20)(F)(ii)], as added by subparagraph (A), shall not be construed as preventing the Secretary of Health and Human Services from implementing the first round of competition under section 1847 of such Act [42 U.S.C. 1395w-3] on a timely basis."

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Physician Payment Review Commission (PPRC) was terminated and its assets and staff transferred to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) by section 4022(c)(2), (3) of Pub. L. 105-33, set out as a note under section 1395b-6 of this title. Section 4022(c)(2), (3) further provided that MedPAC was to be responsible for preparation and submission of reports required by law to be submitted by PPRC, and that, for that purpose, any reference in law to PPRC was to be deemed, after the appointment of MedPAC, to refer to MedPAC.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111-148, title III, §3109(b), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 419, provided that: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may implement the amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] by program instruction or otherwise."

## DEMONSTRATION PROJECT TO ASSESS THE APPROPRIATE USE OF IMAGING SERVICES

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, §135(b), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2535, provided that:

"(1) CONDUCT OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this section referred to as the 'Secretary') shall conduct a demonstration project using the models described in paragraph (2)(E) to collect data regarding physician compliance with appropriateness criteria selected under paragraph (2)(D) in order to determine the appropriateness of advanced diagnostic imaging services furnished to Medicare beneficiaries.

"(B) ADVANCED DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES.—In this subsection, the term 'advanced diagnostic imaging services' has the meaning given such term in section 1834(e)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1395m(e)(1)(B)], as added by subsection (a).

"(C) AUTHORITY TO FOCUS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—The Secretary may focus the demonstration project with respect to certain advanced diagnostic imaging services, such as services that account for a large amount of expenditures under the Medicare program, services that have recently experienced a high rate of growth, or services for which appropriateness criteria exists.

"(2) IMPLEMENTATION AND DESIGN OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—

"(A) IMPLEMENTATION AND DURATION.—

"(i) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall implement the demonstration project under this subsection not later than January 1, 2010.

- “(ii) DURATION.—The Secretary shall conduct the demonstration project under this subsection for a 2-year period.
- “(B) APPLICATION AND SELECTION OF PARTICIPATING PHYSICIANS.—
- “(i) APPLICATION.—Each physician that desires to participate in the demonstration project under this subsection shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.
- “(ii) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall select physicians to participate in the demonstration project under this subsection from among physicians submitting applications under clause (i). The Secretary shall ensure that the physicians selected—
- “(I) represent a wide range of geographic areas, demographic characteristics (such as urban, rural, and suburban), and practice settings (such as private and academic practices); and
- “(II) have the capability to submit data to the Secretary (or an entity under a subcontract with the Secretary) in an electronic format in accordance with standards established by the Secretary.
- “(C) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND INCENTIVES.—The Secretary shall—
- “(i) reimburse physicians for reasonable administrative costs incurred in participating in the demonstration project under this subsection; and
- “(ii) provide reasonable incentives to physicians to encourage participation in the demonstration project under this subsection.
- “(D) USE OF APPROPRIATENESS CRITERIA.—
- “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with medical specialty societies and other stakeholders, shall select criteria with respect to the clinical appropriateness of advanced diagnostic imaging services for use in the demonstration project under this subsection.
- “(ii) CRITERIA SELECTED.—Any criteria selected under clause (i) shall—
- “(I) be developed or endorsed by a medical specialty society; and
- “(II) be developed in adherence to appropriateness principles developed by a consensus organization, such as the AQA alliance.
- “(E) MODELS FOR COLLECTING DATA REGARDING PHYSICIAN COMPLIANCE WITH SELECTED CRITERIA.—Subject to subparagraph (H), in carrying out the demonstration project under this subsection, the Secretary shall use each of the following models for collecting data regarding physician compliance with appropriateness criteria selected under subparagraph (D):
- “(i) A model described in subparagraph (F).
- “(ii) A model described in subparagraph (G).
- “(iii) Any other model that the Secretary determines to be useful in evaluating the use of appropriateness criteria for advanced diagnostic imaging services.
- “(F) POINT OF SERVICE MODEL DESCRIBED.—A model described in this subparagraph is a model that—
- “(i) uses an electronic or paper intake form that—
- “(I) contains a certification by the physician furnishing the imaging service that the data on the intake form was confirmed with the Medicare beneficiary before the service was furnished;
- “(II) contains standardized data elements for diagnosis, service ordered, service furnished, and such other information determined by the Secretary, in consultation with medical specialty societies and other stakeholders, to be germane to evaluating the effectiveness of the use of appropriateness criteria selected under subparagraph (D); and
- “(III) is accessible to physicians participating in the demonstration project under this subsection in a format that allows for the electronic submission of such form; and
- “(ii) provides for feedback reports in accordance with paragraph (3)(B).
- “(G) POINT OF ORDER MODEL DESCRIBED.—A model described in this subparagraph is a model that—
- “(i) uses a computerized order-entry system that requires the transmittal of relevant supporting information at the time of referral for advanced diagnostic imaging services and provides automated decision-support feedback to the referring physician regarding the appropriateness of furnishing such imaging services; and
- “(ii) provides for feedback reports in accordance with paragraph (3)(B).
- “(H) LIMITATION.—In no case may the Secretary use prior authorization—
- “(i) as a model for collecting data regarding physician compliance with appropriateness criteria selected under subparagraph (D) under the demonstration project under this subsection; or
- “(ii) under any model used for collecting such data under the demonstration project.
- “(I) REQUIRED CONTRACTS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN ENTITIES.—
- “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into contracts with entities to carry out the model described in subparagraph (G).
- “(ii) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall establish and enforce performance standards for such entities under the contracts entered into under clause (i), including performance standards with respect to—
- “(I) the satisfaction of Medicare beneficiaries who are furnished advanced diagnostic imaging services by a physician participating in the demonstration project;
- “(II) the satisfaction of physicians participating in the demonstration project;
- “(III) if applicable, timelines for the provision of feedback reports under paragraph (3)(B); and
- “(IV) any other areas determined appropriate by the Secretary.
- “(3) COMPARISON OF UTILIZATION OF ADVANCED DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES AND FEEDBACK REPORTS.—
- “(A) COMPARISON OF UTILIZATION OF ADVANCED DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES.—The Secretary shall consult with medical specialty societies and other stakeholders to develop mechanisms for comparing the utilization of advanced diagnostic imaging services by physicians participating in the demonstration project under this subsection against—
- “(i) the appropriateness criteria selected under paragraph (2)(D); and
- “(ii) to the extent feasible, the utilization of such services by physicians not participating in the demonstration project.
- “(B) FEEDBACK REPORTS.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with medical specialty societies and other stakeholders, develop mechanisms to provide feedback reports to physicians participating in the demonstration project under this subsection. Such feedback reports shall include—
- “(i) a profile of the rate of compliance by the physician with appropriateness criteria selected under paragraph (2)(D), including a comparison of—
- “(I) the rate of compliance by the physician with such criteria; and
- “(II) the rate of compliance by the physician's peers (as defined by the Secretary) with such criteria; and
- “(ii) to the extent feasible, a comparison of—
- “(I) the rate of utilization of advanced diagnostic imaging services by the physician; and
- “(II) the rate of utilization of such services by the physician's peers (as defined by the Secretary) who are not participating in the demonstration project.
- “(4) CONDUCT OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AND WAIVER.—
- “(A) CONDUCT OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, shall not apply to the conduct of the demonstration project under this subsection.

“(B) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive such provisions of titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.; 1395 et seq.) as may be necessary to carry out the demonstration project under this subsection.

“(5) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—

“(A) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evaluate the demonstration project under this subsection to—

“(i) assess the timeliness and efficacy of the demonstration project;

“(ii) assess the performance of entities under a contract entered into under paragraph (2)(I)(i);

“(iii) analyze data—

“(I) on the rates of appropriate, uncertain, and inappropriate advanced diagnostic imaging services furnished by physicians participating in the demonstration project;

“(II) on patterns and trends in the appropriateness and inappropriateness of such services furnished by such physicians;

“(III) on patterns and trends in national and regional variations of care with respect to the furnishing of such services; and

“(IV) on the correlation between the appropriateness of the services furnished and image results; and

“(iv) address—

“(I) the thresholds used under the demonstration project to identify acceptable and outlier levels of performance with respect to the appropriateness of advanced diagnostic imaging services furnished;

“(II) whether prospective use of appropriateness criteria could have an effect on the volume of such services furnished;

“(III) whether expansion of the use of appropriateness criteria with respect to such services to a broader population of Medicare beneficiaries would be advisable;

“(IV) whether, under such an expansion, physicians who demonstrate consistent compliance with such appropriateness criteria should be exempted from certain requirements;

“(V) the use of incident-specific versus practice-specific outlier information in formulating future recommendations with respect to the use of appropriateness criteria for such services under the Medicare program; and

“(VI) the potential for using methods (including financial incentives), in addition to those used under the models under the demonstration project, to ensure compliance with such criteria.

“(B) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the completion of the demonstration project under this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing the results of the evaluation of the demonstration project conducted under subparagraph (A), together with recommendations for such legislative and administrative action as the Secretary determines appropriate.

“(6) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall provide for the transfer from the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund established under section 1841 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395t) of \$10,000,000, for carrying out the demonstration project under this subsection (including costs associated with administering the demonstration project, reimbursing physicians for administrative costs and providing incentives to encourage participation under paragraph (2)(C), entering into contracts under paragraph (2)(I), and evaluating the demonstration project under paragraph (5)).”

#### AIR AMBULANCE PAYMENT IMPROVEMENTS

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, §146(b)(1), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2548, as amended by Pub. L. 111-148, title III, §3105(b), title X, §10311(b), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 417, 943; Pub. L. 111-309, title I, §106(b), Dec. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3287, provided that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of making payments under section 1834(l) of the Social Security Act (42

U.S.C. 1395m(l)) for air ambulance services furnished during the period beginning on July 1, 2008, and ending on December 31, 2011, any area that was designated as a rural area for purposes of making payments under such section for air ambulance services furnished on December 31, 2006, shall be treated as a rural area for purposes of making payments under such section for air ambulance services furnished during such period.”

#### EVALUATION OF CERTAIN CODE

Pub. L. 110-275, title I, §154(c)(3), July 15, 2008, 122 Stat. 2566, provided that: “The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall evaluate the existing Health Care Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes for negative pressure wound therapy to ensure accurate reporting and billing for items and services under such codes. In carrying out such evaluation, the Secretary shall use an existing process, administered by the Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors, for the consideration of coding changes and consider all relevant studies and information furnished pursuant to such process.”

#### GAO REPORT ON CLASS III MEDICAL DEVICES

Pub. L. 108-173, title III, §302(c)(1)(B), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2231, provided that: “Not later than March 1, 2006, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress, and transmit to the Secretary [of Health and Human Services], a report containing recommendations on the appropriate update percentage under section 1834(a)(14) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)(14)) for class III medical devices described in section 513(a)(1)(C) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360(a)(1)(C)) [360c(a)(1)(C)] furnished to medicare beneficiaries during 2007 and 2008.”

#### USE OF DATA

Pub. L. 108-173, title IV, §414(c)(2), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2280, provided that: “In order to promptly implement section 1834(l)(12) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (l)(12) of this section], as added by paragraph (1), the Secretary [of Health and Human Services] may use data furnished by the Comptroller General of the United States.”

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF 2003 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-173, title IV, §414(e), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2280, provided that: “The Secretary [of Health and Human Services] may implement the amendments made by this section [amending this section, section 1395x of this title, and provisions set out as a note under this section], and revise the conversion factor applicable under section 1834(l) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(l)) for purposes of implementing such amendments, on an interim final basis, or by program instruction.”

#### GAO REPORT ON COSTS AND ACCESS

Pub. L. 108-173, title IV, §414(f), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2280, which required the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress initial and final reports on how costs differ among the types of ambulance providers and on access, supply, and quality of ambulance services in those regions and States that have a reduction in payment under the medicare ambulance fee schedule under section 1395m(l) of this title, was repealed by Pub. L. 111-68, div. A, title I, §1501(e)(1), Oct. 1, 2009, 123 Stat. 2041.

#### REPORT ON DEMONSTRATION PROJECT PERMITTING SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES TO BE ORIGINATING TELEHEALTH SITES; AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT

Pub. L. 108-173, title IV, §418, Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2283, provided that:

“(a) EVALUATION.—The Secretary [of Health and Human Services], acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration in

consultation with the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, shall evaluate demonstration projects conducted by the Secretary under which skilled nursing facilities (as defined in section 1819(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i-3(a))) are treated as originating sites for telehealth services.

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than January 1, 2005, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the evaluation conducted under subsection (a). Such report shall include recommendations on mechanisms to ensure that permitting a skilled nursing facility to serve as an originating site for the use of telehealth services or any other service delivered via a telecommunications system does not serve as a substitute for in-person visits furnished by a physician, or for in-person visits furnished by a physician assistant, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist, as is otherwise required by the Secretary.

“(c) AUTHORITY TO EXPAND ORIGINATING TELEHEALTH SITES TO INCLUDE SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES.—Insofar as the Secretary concludes in the report required under subsection (b) that it is advisable to permit a skilled nursing facility to be an originating site for telehealth services under section 1834(m) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)), and that the Secretary can establish the mechanisms to ensure such permission does not serve as a substitute for in-person visits furnished by a physician, or for in-person visits furnished by a physician assistant, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist, the Secretary may deem a skilled nursing facility to be an originating site under paragraph (4)(C)(ii) of such section beginning on January 1, 2006.”

#### PAYMENT FOR NEW TECHNOLOGIES

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title I, §104(d)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-470, as amended by Pub. L. 108-173, title IX, §900(e)(6)(H), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2374, provided that:

“(1) TESTS FURNISHED IN 2001.—

“(A) SCREENING.—For a screening mammography (as defined in section 1861(jj) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(jj))) furnished during the period beginning on April 1, 2001, and ending on December 31, 2001, that uses a new technology, payment for such screening mammography shall be made as follows:

“(i) In the case of a technology which directly takes a digital image (without involving film), in an amount equal to 150 percent of the amount of payment under section 1848 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4) for a bilateral diagnostic mammography (under HCPCS code 76091) for such year.

“(ii) In the case of a technology which allows conversion of a standard film mammogram into a digital image and subsequently analyzes such resulting image with software to identify possible problem areas, in an amount equal to the limit that would otherwise be applied under section 1834(c)(3) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(c)(3)) for 2001, increased by \$15.

“(B) BILATERAL DIAGNOSTIC MAMMOGRAPHY.—For a bilateral diagnostic mammography furnished during the period beginning on April 1, 2001, and ending on December 31, 2001, that uses a new technology described in subparagraph (A), payment for such mammography shall be the amount of payment provided for under such subparagraph.

“(C) ALLOCATION OF AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall provide for an appropriate allocation of the amounts under subparagraphs (A) and (B) between the professional and technical components.

“(D) IMPLEMENTATION OF PROVISION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the provisions of this paragraph by program memorandum or otherwise.

“(2) CONSIDERATION OF NEW HCPCS CODE FOR NEW TECHNOLOGIES AFTER 2001.—The Secretary shall determine, for such mammographies performed after 2001, whether the assignment of a new HCPCS code is appropriate for mammography that uses a new technology. If the Sec-

retary determines that a new code is appropriate for such mammography, the Secretary shall provide for such new code for such tests furnished after 2001.

“(3) NEW TECHNOLOGY DESCRIBED.—For purposes of this subsection, a new technology with respect to a mammography is an advance in technology with respect to the test or equipment that results in the following:

“(A) A significant increase or decrease in the resources used in the test or in the manufacture of the equipment.

“(B) A significant improvement in the performance of the test or equipment.

“(C) A significant advance in medical technology that is expected to significantly improve the treatment of medicare beneficiaries.

“(4) HCPCS CODE DEFINED.—The term ‘HCPCS code’ means a code under the Health Care Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS).”

#### MEDPAC STUDY AND REPORT ON MEDICARE COVERAGE OF CARDIAC AND PULMONARY REHABILITATION THERAPY SERVICES

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title I, §127], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-479, provided that:

“(a) STUDY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission shall conduct a study on coverage of cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation therapy services under the medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this subchapter].

“(2) FOCUS.—In conducting the study under paragraph (1), the Commission shall focus on the appropriate—

“(A) qualifying diagnoses required for coverage of cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation therapy services;

“(B) level of physician direct involvement and supervision in furnishing such services; and

“(C) level of reimbursement for such services.

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000], the Commission shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under subsection (a) together with such recommendations for legislation and administrative action as the Commission determines appropriate.”

#### GAO STUDIES ON COSTS OF AMBULANCE SERVICES FURNISHED IN RURAL AREAS

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title II, §221(b)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-486, provided that:

“(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on each of the matters described in paragraph (2).

“(2) MATTERS DESCRIBED.—The matters referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

“(A) The cost of efficiently providing ambulance services for trips originating in rural areas, with special emphasis on collection of cost data from rural providers.

“(B) The means by which rural areas with low population densities can be identified for the purpose of designating areas in which the cost of providing ambulance services would be expected to be higher than similar services provided in more heavily populated areas because of low usage. Such study shall also include an analysis of the additional costs of providing ambulance services in areas designated under the previous sentence.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than June 30, 2002, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the studies conducted under paragraph (1) and shall include recommendations on steps that should be taken to assure access to ambulance services in rural areas.”

#### ADJUSTMENT IN RURAL RATES

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title II, §221(c)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-487, as amended by Pub. L. 108-173,

title IV, §414(f)(1), formerly §414(g)(1), Dec. 8, 2003, 117 Stat. 2281, as renumbered by Pub. L. 111-68, div. A, title I, §1501(e)(2), Oct. 1, 2009, 123 Stat. 2041, provided that: “In providing for adjustments under subparagraph (D) of section 1834(l)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(l)(2)) for years beginning with 2004, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall take into consideration the recommendations contained in the report under subsection (b)(3) [set out above] and shall adjust the fee schedule payment rates under such section for ambulance services provided in low density rural areas based on the increased cost (if any) of providing such services in such areas.”

STUDY AND REPORT ON ADDITIONAL COVERAGE FOR  
TELEHEALTH SERVICES

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title II, §223(d)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-489, provided that:

“(1) STUDY.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall conduct a study to identify—

“(A) settings and sites for the provision of telehealth services that are in addition to those permitted under section 1834(m) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (m) of this section], as added by subsection (b);

“(B) practitioners that may be reimbursed under such section for furnishing telehealth services that are in addition to the practitioners that may be reimbursed for such services under such section; and

“(C) geographic areas in which telehealth services may be reimbursed that are in addition to the geographic areas where such services may be reimbursed under such section.

“(2) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000], the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under paragraph (1) together with such recommendations for legislation that the Secretary determines are appropriate.”

SPECIAL RULES FOR PAYMENTS FOR 2001

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title IV, §423(a)(2)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-518, provided that: “Notwithstanding the amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section], for purposes of making payments for ambulance services under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part], for services furnished during 2001, the ‘percentage increase in the consumer price index’ specified in section 1834(l)(3)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(l)(3)(B))—

“(A) for services furnished on or after January 1, 2001, and before July 1, 2001, shall be the percentage increase for 2001 as determined under the provisions of law in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000]; and

“(B) for services furnished on or after July 1, 2001, and before January 1, 2002, shall be equal to 4.7 percent.”

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title IV, §425(b)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-519, provided that: “Notwithstanding the amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section], for purposes of making payments for durable medical equipment under section 1834(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)), other than for oxygen and oxygen equipment specified in paragraph (9) of such section, the payment basis recognized for 2001 under such section—

“(1) for items furnished on or after January 1, 2001, and before July 1, 2001, shall be the payment basis for 2001 as determined under the provisions of law in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000] (including the application of section 228(a)(1) of BBRA [Pub. L. 106-113, §1000(a)(6) [title II, §228(a)(1)], set out as a note below]; and

“(2) for items furnished on or after July 1, 2001, and before January 1, 2002, shall be the payment basis that is determined under such section 1834(a) if such section 228(a)(1) did not apply and taking into account the amendment made by subsection (a), in-

creased by a transitional percentage allowance equal to 3.28 percent (to account for the timing of implementation of the CPI update).”

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title IV, §426(b)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-520, provided that: “Notwithstanding the amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section], for purposes of making payments for prosthetic devices and orthotics and prosthetics (as defined in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (4) of section 1834(h) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(h)) under such section, the payment basis recognized for 2001 under paragraph (2) of such section—

“(1) for items furnished on or after January 1, 2001, and before July 1, 2001, shall be the payment basis for 2001 as determined under the provisions of law in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000]; and

“(2) for items furnished on or after July 1, 2001, and before January 1, 2002, shall be the payment basis that is determined under such section taking into account the amendments made by subsection (a), increased by a transitional percentage allowance equal to 2.6 percent (to account for the timing of implementation of the CPI update).”

PREEMPTION OF RULE

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title IV, §428(b)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-522, provided that: “The provisions of section 1834(h)(1)(G) [subsec. (h)(1)(G) of this section] as added by subsection (a) shall supersede any rule that as of the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000] may have applied a 5-year replacement rule with regard to prosthetic devices.”

GAO STUDY AND REPORT ON COSTS OF EMERGENCY AND  
MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title IV, §436], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-527, provided that:

“(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the costs of providing emergency and medical transportation services across the range of acuity levels of conditions for which such transportation services are provided.

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000], the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under subsection (a), together with recommendations for any changes in methodology or payment level necessary to fairly compensate suppliers of emergency and medical transportation services and to ensure the access of beneficiaries under the medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this subchapter].”

TREATMENT OF TEMPORARY PAYMENT INCREASES  
AFTER CALENDAR YEAR 2001

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(6) [title V, §547(d)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-553, provided that: “The payment increase provided under the following sections shall not apply after calendar year 2001 and shall not be taken into account in calculating the payment amounts applicable for items and services furnished after such year:

“(1) Section 401(c)(2) [set out as a note under section 1395l of this title] (relating to covered OPD services).

“(2) Section 422(e)(2) [set out as a note under section 1395rr of this title] (relating to renal dialysis services paid for on a composite rate basis).

“(3) Section 423(a)(2)(B) [set out above] (relating to ambulance services).

“(4) Section 425(b)(2) [set out above] (relating to durable medical equipment).



“(5) Section 426(b)(2) [set out above] (relating to prosthetic devices and orthotics and prosthetics).”

**STUDY OF DELIVERY OF INTRAVENOUS IMMUNE GLOBULIN (IVIG) OUTSIDE HOSPITALS AND PHYSICIANS' OFFICES**

Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(6) [title II, §201(n)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-341, required the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study of the extent to which intravenous immune globulin could be delivered and reimbursed under the medicare program outside of a hospital or physician's office and to submit a report on such study to Congress within 18 months after Nov. 29, 1999.

**TEMPORARY INCREASE IN PAYMENT RATES FOR DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND OXYGEN**

Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(6) [title II, §228], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-356, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of payments under section 1834(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)) for covered items (as defined in paragraph (13) of that section) furnished during 2001 and 2002, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall increase the payment amount in effect (but for this section) for such items for—

- “(1) 2001 by 0.3 percent, and
- “(2) 2002 by 0.6 percent.

“(b) LIMITING APPLICATION TO SPECIFIED YEARS.—The payment amount increase—

- “(1) under subsection (a)(1) shall not apply after 2001 and shall not be taken into account in calculating the payment amounts applicable for covered items furnished after such year; and
- “(2) under subsection (a)(2) shall not apply after 2002 and shall not be taken into account in calculating the payment amounts applicable for covered items furnished after such year.”

**DEMONSTRATION OF COVERAGE OF AMBULANCE SERVICES UNDER MEDICARE THROUGH CONTRACTS WITH UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Pub. L. 105-33, title IV, §4532, Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 453, as amended by Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(6) [title II, §225], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-353, provided that:

“(a) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT CONTRACTS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall establish up to 3 demonstration projects under which, at the request of a unit of local government, the Secretary enters into a contract with the unit of local government under which—

“(1) the unit of local government furnishes (or arranges for the furnishing of) ambulance services for which payment may be made under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part] for individuals residing in the unit of local government who are enrolled under such part, except that the unit of local government may not enter into the contract unless the contract covers at least 80 percent of the individuals residing in the unit of local government who are enrolled under such part but not in a Medicare+Choice plan;

“(2) any individual or entity furnishing ambulance services under the contract meets the requirements otherwise applicable to individuals and entities furnishing such services under such part; and

“(3) for each month during which the contract is in effect, the Secretary makes a capitated payment to the unit of local government in accordance with subsection (b).

The projects may extend over a period of not to exceed 3 years each. Not later than July 1, 2000, the Secretary shall publish a request for proposals for such projects.

“(b) AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of the monthly payment made for months occurring during a calendar year to a unit of local government under a demonstration project contract under subsection (a) shall be equal to the product of—

“(A) the Secretary's estimate of the number of individuals covered under the contract for the month; and

“(B)  $\frac{1}{12}$  of the capitated payment rate for the year established under paragraph (2).

“(2) CAPITATED PAYMENT RATE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘capitated payment rate’ means, with respect to a demonstration project—

“(A) in its first year, a rate established for the project by the Secretary, using the most current available data, in a manner that ensures that aggregate payments under the project will not exceed the aggregate payment that would have been made for ambulance services under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part] in the local area of government's jurisdiction; and

“(B) in a subsequent year, the capitated payment rate established for the previous year increased by an appropriate inflation adjustment factor.

“(c) OTHER TERMS OF CONTRACT.—The Secretary and the unit of local government may include in a contract under this section such other terms as the parties consider appropriate, including—

“(1) covering individuals residing in additional units of local government (under arrangements entered into between such units and the unit of local government involved);

“(2) permitting the unit of local government to transport individuals to non-hospital providers if such providers are able to furnish quality services at a lower cost than hospital providers; or

“(3) implementing such other innovations as the unit of local government may propose to improve the quality of ambulance services and control the costs of such services.

“(d) CONTRACT PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF OTHER BENEFITS.—Payments under a contract to a unit of local government under this section shall be instead of the amounts which (in the absence of the contract) would otherwise be payable under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part] for the services covered under the contract which are furnished to individuals who reside in the unit of local government.

“(e) REPORT ON EFFECTS OF CAPITATED CONTRACTS.—

“(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall evaluate the demonstration projects conducted under this section. Such evaluation shall include an analysis of the quality and cost-effectiveness of ambulance services furnished under the projects.

“(2) REPORT.—Not later than January 1, 2000, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress on the study conducted under paragraph (1), and shall include in the report such recommendations as the Secretary considers appropriate, including recommendations regarding modifications to the methodology used to determine the amount of payments made under such contracts and extending or expanding such projects.”

[References to Medicare+Choice deemed to refer to Medicare Advantage, see section 201(b) of Pub. L. 108-173, set out as a note under section 1395w-21 of this title.]

[Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(6) [title II, §225], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-353, provided that the amendment made by that section to section 4532 of Pub. L. 105-33, set out above, is effective as if included in the enactment of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-33.]

**PAYMENT FREEZE FOR PARENTERAL AND ENTERAL NUTRIENTS, SUPPLIES, AND EQUIPMENT**

Section 4551(b) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that: “In determining the amount of payment under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part] with respect to parenteral and enteral nutrients, supplies, and equipment during each of the years 1998 through 2002, the charges determined to be reasonable with respect to such nutrients, supplies, and equipment may not exceed the charges determined to be reasonable with respect to such nutrients, supplies, and equipment during 1995.”

SERVICE STANDARDS FOR PROVIDERS OF OXYGEN AND  
OXYGEN EQUIPMENT

Section 4552(c) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that: “The Secretary shall as soon as practicable establish service standards for persons seeking payment under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part] for the providing of oxygen and oxygen equipment to beneficiaries within their homes.”

ACCESS TO HOME OXYGEN EQUIPMENT

Section 4552(d) of Pub. L. 105-33 provided that:

“(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall study issues relating to access to home oxygen equipment and shall, within 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 5, 1997], report to the Committees on Commerce and Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate the results of the study, including recommendations (if any) for legislation.

“(2) PEER REVIEW EVALUATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall arrange for peer review organizations established under section 1154 of the Social Security Act [section 1320c-3 of this title] to evaluate access to, and quality of, home oxygen equipment.”

USE OF COVERED ITEMS BY DISABLED BENEFICIARIES

Section 131(b) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with representatives of suppliers of durable medical equipment under part B of the medicare program [this part] and individuals entitled to benefits under such program on the basis of disability, shall conduct a study of the effects of the methodology for determining payments for items of such equipment under such part on the ability of such individuals to obtain items of such equipment, including customized items.

“(2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 31, 1994], the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress on the study conducted under paragraph (1), and shall include in the report such recommendations as the Secretary considers appropriate to assure that disabled medicare beneficiaries have access to items of durable medical equipment.”

CRITERIA FOR TREATMENT OF ITEMS AS PROSTHETIC  
DEVICES OR ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS

Section 131(c) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that not later than one year after Oct. 31, 1994, Secretary of Health and Human Services was to submit to Congress a report describing prosthetic devices or orthotics and prosthetics covered under this part that do not require individualized or custom fitting and adjustment to be used by a patient, including recommendations for appropriate methodology for determining amount of payment for such items.

ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN ITEMS

Section 134(b) of Pub. L. 103-432 provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with section 1834(a)(10)(B) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (a)(10)(B) of this section] (as amended by subsection (a)), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall determine whether the payment amounts for the items described in paragraph (2) are not inherently reasonable, and shall adjust such amounts in accordance with such section if the amounts are not inherently reasonable.

“(2) ITEMS DESCRIBED.—The items referred to in paragraph (1) are decubitus care equipment, transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulators, and any other items considered appropriate by the Secretary.”

LIMITATION ON PREVAILING CHARGE FOR PHYSICIANS'  
RADIOLOGY SERVICES FURNISHED DURING 1991; EXCEP-  
TIONS

Section 4102(c) of Pub. L. 101-508, as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, title I, §126(b)(3), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4415, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In applying part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part], the prevailing charge for physicians' services, furnished during 1991, which are radiology services may not exceed the fee schedule amount established under section 1834(b) of such Act [subsec. (b) of this section] with respect to such services.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to nuclear medicine services.”

LIMITATION ON CARRIER ADJUSTMENTS FOR  
RADIOLOGIST SERVICES FURNISHED DURING 1991

Section 4102(e) of Pub. L. 101-508 provided that: “For radiologist services furnished during 1991 for which payment is made under section 1834(b) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (b) of this section]—

“(1) a carrier may not make any adjustment, under section 1842(b)(3)(B) of such Act [section 1395u(b)(3)(B) of this title], in the payment amount for the service under section 1834(b) on the basis that the payment amount is higher than the charge applicable, for a comparable service and under comparable circumstances, to the policyholders and subscribers of the carrier,

“(2) no payment adjustment may be made under section 1842(b)(8) of such Act, and

“(3) section 1842(b)(9) of such Act shall not apply.”

STUDY OF PAYMENTS FOR PROSTHETIC DEVICES,  
ORTHOTICS, AND PROSTHETICS

Section 4153(c) of Pub. L. 101-508, as amended by Pub. L. 103-432, title I, §135(e)(6), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4424, directed Comptroller General to conduct a study of feasibility and desirability of establishing a separate fee schedule for use in determining the amount of payments for covered items under subsec. (h) of this section with respect to suppliers of prosthetic devices, orthotics, and prosthetics who provide professional services that would take into account the costs to such providers of providing such services and, not later than 1 year after Nov. 5, 1990, submit a report on the study to Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means of House of Representatives and Committee on Finance of Senate, including any recommendations regarding payments for prosthetic devices, orthotics, and prosthetics under the medicare program.

SPECIAL RULE FOR NUCLEAR MEDICINE PHYSICIANS

Section 6105(b) of Pub. L. 101-239, as amended by Pub. L. 101-508, title IV, §4102(g)(1), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-57, provided that: “In applying section 1834(b) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (b) of this section] with respect to nuclear medicine services furnished by a physician for whom nuclear medicine services account for at least 80 percent of the total amount of charges made under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part] beginning April 1, 1990, and ending December 31, 1991, there shall be substituted for the fee schedule otherwise applicable a fee schedule based  $\frac{1}{3}$  on the fee schedule computed under such section (without regard to this subsection) and  $\frac{2}{3}$  on 101 percent of the 1988 prevailing charge for such services.”

SPECIAL RULE FOR INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGISTS;  
“SPLIT BILLING”

Section 6105(c) of Pub. L. 101-239, as amended by Pub. L. 101-508, title IV, §4102(h), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-58, provided that: “In applying section 1834(b) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (b) of this section] to radiologist services furnished in 1990 or 1991, the exception for ‘split billing’ set forth at section 5262J of the Medicare Carriers Manual shall apply to services furnished in 1990 or 1991 in the same manner and to the same extent as the exception applied to services furnished in 1989.”

RENTAL PAYMENTS FOR ENTERAL AND PARENTERAL  
PUMPS

Section 6112(b) of Pub. L. 101-239 provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amount of any monthly rental payment under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this part] for an enteral or parenteral pump furnished on or after April 1, 1990, shall be determined in accordance with the methodology under which monthly rental payments for such pumps were determined during 1989.

“(2) CAP ON RENTAL PAYMENTS, SERVICING, AND REPAIRS.—In the case of an enteral or parenteral pump described in paragraph (1) that is furnished on a rental basis during a period of medical need—

“(A) monthly rental payments shall not be made under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act for more than 15 months during such period, and

“(B) after monthly rental payments have been made for 15 months during such period, payment under such part shall be made for maintenance and servicing of the pump in such amounts as the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines to be reasonable and necessary to ensure the proper operation of the pump.”

#### TREATMENT OF POWER-DRIVEN WHEELCHAIRS AS CUSTOMIZED ITEMS

Section 6112(d)(2) of Pub. L. 101-239 provided that: “The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall by regulation specify criteria to be used by carriers in making determinations on a case-by-case basis as to whether to classify power-driven wheelchairs as a customized item (as described in section 1834(a)(4) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (a)(4) of this section]) for purposes of reimbursement under title XVIII of such Act [this subchapter].”

#### STUDY OF PAYMENT FOR PORTABLE X-RAY SERVICES

Section 6134 of Pub. L. 101-239 directed Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study of costs of furnishing, and payments for, portable x-ray services under part B and, not later than 1 year after Dec. 19, 1989, report to Congress on results of such study including a recommendation respecting whether payment for such services should be made in the same manner as for radiologists' services or on the basis of a separate fee schedule.

#### GAO STUDY OF STANDARDS FOR USE OF AND PAYMENT FOR ITEMS OF DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Section 6139 of Pub. L. 101-239 directed Comptroller General to conduct a study of appropriate uses of items of durable medical equipment and of appropriate criteria for making determinations of medical necessity under this subchapter for such items, with particular emphasis on items (including seat-lift chairs) that may be subject to abusive billing practices, such study to include an analysis of appropriate use of forms in making medical necessity determinations for items of durable medical equipment under such title, and procedures for identifying items of durable medical equipment that should no longer be covered under this subchapter, and to be conducted with a panel convened by the Comptroller General consisting of specialists in the disciplines of orthopedic medicine, rehabilitation, arthritis, and geriatric medicine, representatives of consumer organizations, and representatives of carriers under the medicare program, with the Comptroller General to submit not later than Apr. 1, 1991, a report to Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce of House of Representatives and Committee on Finance of Senate on the study including recommendations.

#### REPORTS ON MEDICARE BENEFICIARY DRUG EXPENSES

Section 202(i) of Pub. L. 100-360, directed Secretary of Health and Human Services, by not later than Apr. 1, 1989, to report to Congress on expenses incurred by medicare beneficiaries for outpatient prescription drugs, and to provide Director of Congressional Budget Office with such data from that Survey as Director might request to make required estimates, prior to re-

peal by Pub. L. 101-234, title II, §201(a), Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1981.

#### ADDITIONAL STUDIES BY SECRETARY OR COMPTROLLER GENERAL

Section 202(k) of Pub. L. 100-360 directed Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study, and make a report to Congress by Jan. 1, 1990, on possibility of including drugs which have not yet been approved under section 355 or 357 of Title 21, Food and Drugs, and biological products which have not been licensed under section 262 of this title but which are commonly used in the treatment of cancer or in immunosuppressive therapy and other experimental drugs and biological products as covered outpatient drugs under medicare program, to conduct a study, and report to Congress by Jan. 1, 1990, evaluating potential to use mail service pharmacies to reduce costs to medicare program and to medicare beneficiaries, to conduct a study, and report to Congress by Jan. 1, 1993, on methods to improve utilization review of covered outpatient drugs, and to conduct a longitudinal study, and report to Congress by Jan. 1, 1993, on use of outpatient prescription drugs by medicare beneficiaries with respect to medical necessity, potential for adverse drug interactions, cost (including whether lower cost drugs could have been used), and patient stockpiling or wastage, and which further directed Comptroller General to conduct studies, and report to Congress by not later than May 1, 1991, on comparing average wholesale prices with actual pharmacy acquisition costs by type of pharmacy, on determining the overhead costs of retail pharmacies, and on discounts given by pharmacies to other third-party insurers, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 101-234, title II, §201(a), Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1981.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARD MEDICARE CLAIMS FORMS

Section 202(l) of Pub. L. 100-360 directed Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop, in consultation with representatives of pharmacies and other interested individuals, a standard claims form (and a standard electronic claims format) to be used in requests for payment for covered outpatient drugs under medicare program and other third-party payors, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 101-234, title II, §201(a), Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1981.

#### STUDIES AND REPORTS ON SCREENING MAMMOGRAPHY

Section 204(f) of Pub. L. 100-360 directed Physician Payment Review Commission to study and report, by July 1, 1989, to Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and Committee on Finance of the Senate concerning the cost of providing screening mammography in a variety of settings and at different volume levels, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 101-234, title II, §201(a), Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1981.

#### DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FEE SCHEDULES FOR RADIOLOGIST SERVICES; REPORT TO CONGRESS

Section 4049(b)(1) of Pub. L. 100-203, as amended by Pub. L. 100-360, title IV, §411(f)(8)(E), July 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 780; Pub. L. 101-508, title IV, §4118(g)(3), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-70, directed Secretary of Health and Human Services to propose the relative value scale and fee schedules for radiologist services (under subsec. (b) of this section) by not later than Aug. 1, 1988.

#### STUDY AND EVALUATION

Section 4062(c) of Pub. L. 100-203, as amended by Pub. L. 100-360, title IV, §411(g)(1)(C), July 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 782, provided that:

“(1) The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall monitor the impact of the amendments made by this section [enacting this section, amending sections 1395f, 1395k, 1395l, and 1395cc of this title, and repealing section 1395zz of this title] on the availability of covered items and shall evaluate the appropriateness of the volume adjustment for oxygen and oxygen equip-

ment under section 1834(a)(5)(C) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (a)(5)(C) of this section] (as amended by subsection (b) of this section). The Secretary shall report to Congress, by not later than January 1, 1991, on such impact and on the evaluation and shall include in such report recommendations for changes in payment methodology for covered items under section 1834(a) of such Act.

“(2) Before January 1, 1991, the Secretary may not conduct any demonstration project respecting alternative methods of payment for covered items under title XVIII of the Social Security Act [this subchapter].

“(3) In this subsection, the term ‘covered item’ has the meaning given such term in section 1834(a)(13) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (a)(13) of this section] (as amended by subsection (b) of this section).

“(4) The Secretary shall, upon written request and payment of a reasonable copying fee which the Secretary may establish, provide the data and information used in determining the payment amounts for covered items under section 1834(a) of the Social Security Act [subsec. (a) of this section], but only in a form which does not permit identification of individual suppliers.

“(5) The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the appropriateness of the level of payments allowed for covered items under the medicare program, and shall report to Congress on the results of such study (including recommendations on the transition to regional or national rates) by not later than January 1, 1991. Entities furnishing such items which fail to provide the Comptroller General with reasonable access to necessary records to carry out the study under this paragraph are subject to exclusion from the medicare program under section 1128(a) of the Social Security Act [section 1320a-7(a) of this title].”

**§ 1395n. Procedure for payment of claims of providers of services**

**(a) Conditions for payment for services described in section 1395k(a)(2) of this title**

Except as provided in subsections (b), (c), and (e) of this section, payment for services described in section 1395k(a)(2) of this title furnished an individual may be made only to providers of services which are eligible therefor under section 1395cc(a) of this title, and only if—

(1) written request, signed by such individual, except in cases in which the Secretary finds it impracticable for the individual to do so, is filed for such payment in such form, in such manner and by such person or persons as the Secretary may by regulation prescribe, no later than the close of the period ending 1 calendar year after the date of service; and

(2) a physician, or, in the case of services described in subparagraph (A), a physician enrolled under section 1395cc(j) of this title, certifies (and recertifies, where such services are furnished over a period of time, in such cases, with such frequency, and accompanied by such supporting material, appropriate to the case involved, as may be provided by regulations) that—

(A) in the case of home health services (i) such services are or were required because the individual is or was confined to his home (except when receiving items and services referred to in section 1395x(m)(7) of this title) and needs or needed skilled nursing care (other than solely venipuncture for the purpose of obtaining a blood sample) on an intermittent basis or physical or speech therapy or, in the case of an individual who has been furnished home health services

based on such a need and who no longer has such a need for such care or therapy, continues or continued to need occupational therapy, (ii) a plan for furnishing such services to such individual has been established and is periodically reviewed by a physician, (iii) such services are or were furnished while the individual is or was under the care of a physician, and (iv) in the case of a certification after January 1, 2010, prior to making such certification the physician must document that the physician, or a nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist (as those terms are defined in section 1395x(aa)(5) of this title) who is working in collaboration with the physician in accordance with State law, or a certified nurse-midwife (as defined in section 1395x(gg) of this title) as authorized by State law, or a physician assistant (as defined in section 1395x(aa)(5) of this title) under the supervision of the physician, has had a face-to-face encounter (including through use of telehealth and other than with respect to encounters that are incident to services involved) with the individual during the 6-month period preceding such certification, or other reasonable timeframe as determined by the Secretary;

(B) in the case of medical and other health services, except services described in subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of section 1395x(s)(2) of this title, such services are or were medically required;

(C) in the case of outpatient physical therapy services or outpatient occupational therapy services, (i) such services are or were required because the individual needed physical therapy services or occupational therapy services, respectively, (ii) a plan for furnishing such services has been established by a physician or by the qualified physical therapist or qualified occupational therapist, respectively, providing such services and is periodically reviewed by a physician, and (iii) such services are or were furnished while the individual is or was under the care of a physician;

(D) in the case of outpatient speech pathology services, (i) such services are or were required because the individual needed speech pathology services, (ii) a plan for furnishing such services has been established by a physician or by the speech pathologist providing such services and is periodically reviewed by a physician, and (iii) such services are or were furnished while the individual is or was under the care of a physician;

(E) in the case of comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility services, (i) such services are or were required because the individual needed skilled rehabilitation services, (ii) a plan for furnishing such services has been established and is periodically reviewed by a physician, and (iii) such services are or were furnished while the individual is or was under the care of a physician; and

(F) in the case of partial hospitalization services, (i) the individual would require inpatient psychiatric care in the absence of