

Vol. 70, Issue 15

Thursday, April 16, 2026

CMS Releases Proposed Medicare 2027 Inpatient Payment Rule

On April 10, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) introduced its 2026 proposed inpatient prospective payment system (IPPS) rule. WHA will analyze the full rule in the coming weeks and prepare comments in advance of the June 9 comment deadline.



Among the notable items included in the proposal are:

- A 2.4% net pay bump that includes a 3.2% market-basket increase, offset by a 0.8% productivity cut.
- Expanding the Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) model to all eligible hospitals nationwide.
- Decreasing Medicare DSH payments by approximately \$546 million based on updates to the estimated uncompensated care pool.
- Changes to provider-based regulations for how CMS treats the "same patient population."
- The creation of 14 new and deletion of 18 current MS-DRGs.
- Changes to various inpatient quality reporting and value-based programs.
- Changes to the CMMI Transforming Episode Accountability Model (TEAM).

Contact WHA Vice President of Federal Affairs and Advocacy Jon Hoelter with questions.

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2026 Quarter 1 Quality Snapshot and Health Care Quality Showcase Video Highlight Wisconsin's Collective Impact
- WHA and WHA Foundation Support HOSA State Leadership Conference, Earn Partner Award
- CMS Releases Proposed Medicare 2027 Inpatient Payment Rule
- Wisconsin Hospitals State PAC & Conduit Campaign Gains Momentum
- Join Us at the 2026 WI Rural Health Conference to Learn More About Navigating Generational Dynamics in Healthcare
- Agenda and Registration Details Released for April 23 Rural Health Transformation Program Advisory Council
- Leadership Academy Participants Learn How to "Effectively Navigate Difficult Conversations & Conflict"
- 2026 Clinical Simulation Training Scholarship Now Available

EDUCATION EVENTS

Apr. 27, 2026

Emergency Preparedness Regulations: Is Your Hospital Prepared for the Next Emergency?

Apr. 28, 2026

Best Practices in Healthcare Master Planning & Budgeting

May. 12, 2026

WHA 2026 Wisconsin Health Care Workforce Webinar Series - Part 2: Relieve Workforce Burden