



CMS Issues Locale-Specific Anesthesia Conversion Factors for 2013

CMS has issued locale-specific anesthesia conversion factors for services provided in 2013. They are based on the unadjusted conversion factor of \$15.93. Please note the factors are published prior to any Congressional action on the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR), or “doc fix” and therefore are subject to change. [Read More](#)

No Funding for Partial Medicaid Expansion, HHS Tells States

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius sent a message to state governors yesterday that they cannot phase in or only partially fund Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and still gain full federal funding. [Read More](#)

Financial Outlook for Not-for-Profit Hospitals Uncertain Beyond 2013

The financial outlook for not-for-profit hospitals is stable in 2013, but pressures related to payment reductions and more limited cost cutting opportunities make the fiscal landscape beyond 2013 less certain, a national rating agency reports. [Read More](#)

SGR fix hostage to fiscal cliff debate

Physicians are scheduled to receive a 26.5 percent reduction in payments starting Jan. 1 unless Congress intervenes. Action to avert the cut is being considered as part of broader fiscal cliff negotiations on tax and spending policies. [Read More](#)

CMMI releases list of episodes of care for bundled payment initiative

CMS' Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) released a preliminary list of 48 episodes of care from which participating providers may choose as part of the Bundled Payment for Care Improvement (BPCI) initiative. [Read More](#)

Study Reveals Hospital-owned Physicians See Operating Cost Increases

A survey conducted between February and April of this year by the MGMA-ACMPE (formerly Medical Group Management Association) included data from 2,119 groups that revealed operating costs for full-time physicians had increased in 2011 as compared to 2010. Data from the study also showed physician costs for physician-owned groups had grown slower than for hospital-owned practices. [Read More](#)

Compliance Corner

MGMA [Anesthesia Medicare and Coding Update 2013](#) Slide Presentation by Kelly Dennis

[Read More](#)