

Legislative and Regulatory Update

Erin Cubit Iowa Hospital Association

Identifying Legislative Priorities

*Disclaimer: These priorities are not final yet



Workforce



Workforce

- Recruitment and Retention
- Workplace Violence
- Medical Malpractice Reform



Hospital Operations



Hospital Operations

- Certificate of Need
- Maternal Health
- Behavioral Health
- Pharmacy Practices
- Cybersecurity



Rural Emergency Hospitals



Rural Emergency Hospitals

- Developed in Dec. 2020 and will go into effect Jan. 2023
- REHs could provide emergency and outpatient care
- Will receive OPPS rate plus 5% and a monthly facility fee
- Rules released at the federal level
- Need state licensure



Hospital Finances



Hospital Finances

- Needed increases in Medicaid rates
- Reducing complexities within Medicaid Managed Care



Federal Update



REH Update



REH-CoPs

- REH regulations
 - Comments due August 29th
 - Tracks CAH CoPs
 - CMS requests feedback
 - OB services/surgical services
 - QAPI
 - ED on call requirements



REH-CoPs

- CAH change in definition of primary roads for mileage requirements
 - CAH be more than a 35-mile drive on primary roads, or a 15-mile drive on roads in mountainous terrain or in an area with only secondary roads available, from a hospital or CAH. CMS further defined "primary road" to include either of the following:
 - A numbered federal highway (including interstates, intrastates, expressways or any other numbered federal highway)
 - A numbered state highway with two or more lanes each way.



REH-OPPS

- REH regulations payment provisions OPPS
 - Applicable OPPS rate plus 5% as well as a monthly facility payment (rate of \$268,294/month or approximately \$3.2M/year)
 - All covered outpatient department services paid at the applicable OPPS rate plus 5%
 - Items and services that are not REH services will be paid under the payment system applicable to the item or service (ie. fee schedule)



REH

State Licensure

- DIA
- Governor's office
- Legislators

Other efforts

- State Hospital Associations
- AHA



Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

- Extends for three years the expanded eligibility and value of the ACA subsidies
- Allows Medicare to negotiate drug prices on a limited set of drugs, including insulin
- Addresses climate change through tax changes and spending subsidies
- Reduces the deficit



IPPS Final Rule - Oct. 1, 2022

- Increases payment rate by 4.3% (1.1% points higher than proposed)
- Permanently applies a 5% cap on any decrease in a hospital's area wage index
- Use FY18 and FY19 Worksheet S-10 data to determine DSH uncompensated care payments
- Distributes %10.4B in DSH payments
- Adds 10 new measures to the IQR program, including 3 new health equity measures and 2 maternal health measures



OPPS Proposed Rule – Jan 1, 2022

- Increases payment rates by 2.7%
- Anticipates paying 340B hospitals at average sales price plus 6%
- Payment, enrollment and quality policies for REH
- Exempts SCHs from site-neutral clinic visit cuts
- Continue payment for remote BH services beyond the end of the PHE
- Revises the IPO list nothing substantial



Thank you!

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