



2025 Medicare Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System/Ambulatory Surgical Center Proposed Rule

Background:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the Calendar Year (CY) 2025 Medicare Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System/Ambulatory Surgical Center (OPPS/ASC) [proposed rule](#) on July 10, 2024.

What this rule would do:

The proposed rule would update the Medicare hospital outpatient payment rate by 2.6% and make changes to the hospital outpatient quality reporting program. Key proposals include the following:

- Adding the Patient Understanding of Key Information Related to Recovery After a Facility-Based Outpatient Procedure or Surgery Patient Reported Outcome-Based Performance measure (PRO-PM) to the Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting Program beginning with a voluntary reporting period in CY 2025 followed by mandatory reporting beginning with the CY 2026 reporting period/CY 2028 payment year. CMS believes that this measure will provide insight into the communication of recovery information and enable Hospital Outpatient Departments to improve patient understanding of such information.
- Removing the MRI Lumbar Spine for Low Back Pain measure beginning with the CY 2025 reporting period/CY 2027 payment year given that recent studies have found performance or improvement on the measure did not lead to better patient outcomes.
- Extending the reporting period for the Risk-Standardized Hospital Visits Within 7 Days After Hospital Outpatient Surgery measure from one to two years beginning in CY 2025.
- Request for Information on the Development of a Specialty Focused Reporting and Minimum Case Number for Required Reporting framework within the quality reporting program.
- Request for Information on Principles for Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in federal payment models.
- Adding seven drugs and one device that qualify as non-opioid treatments for pain relief and proposing that these products be paid separately in both the HOPD and ASC settings beginning in CY 2025.

What Happens Next:

AAOS committees are reviewing this rule, and we are collaborating with orthopaedic stakeholders to develop our comment letter.