

### 2023 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule

### 2023 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule



- Background
- E/M Coding Documentation Changes
- E/M Coding Changes
- Split/Shared E/M Visits
- Telehealth



### Presenter



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### **EXPERTISE**

- Family Physician and Former Health System CMO
- Physician Leadership and Governance
- Vision Development
- Compensation Planning



# **2023 MPFS Background Information**



### Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS)

- Since 1992, the MPFS has determined **professional service reimbursement requirements and rates** 
  - Applies to payment for services provided by physicians and other practitioners at all sites of service
- Includes many other CMS regulatory changes related to physician practice
- Proposed Rule usually released mid to end of July
  - Published in Federal Register thereafter
  - 2023 Proposed Rule was released July 7<sup>th</sup>
- Public comment period follows 60 days
  - CMS considers, and responds; may or may not impact Final Rule
- Final Rule is usually released on or about November 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Published in Federal Register thereafter
  - 2023 Final Rule released November 1st
- Many elements effective "immediately" on the following January 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Some are projected out 1-2 or more years before the effective date
  - ... and may change from one Final Rule to the next



### Overview of Major Elements

- Conversion Factor decreased
- E/M Coding Documentation Changes
- E/M Code Changes
- Split/Shared Visits Change Delay
- Telehealth Services and the PHE

- Behavioral Health Services Changes
- Chronic Pain Management Changes
- Audiology Services
- RHCs and FQHCs



# 2023 MPFS Conversion Factor

- Final Rule projected a 4.5% decrease in the Medicare Conversion Factor
  - 3% due to the expiration of the supplemental Congressional funding for 2022
  - 1.5% due to the E/M coding changes
- For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, Congress responded to public calls for support
  - Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023
    - Signed into law on December 29, 2022
    - Added funding to allay 2.5% of the conversion factor reduction for 2023 for a net reduction of 2%
      - Also funded a 1.25% positive adjustment for 2024 a departure from the annual adjustments of the previous two years
    - Also delayed implementation of the 4% PAYGO deduction for two years
    - Continued the Advanced APM arm of MACRA an additional year but at 3.5% rather than the original 5%
    - Extended telehealth waivers (see below)





- Designed to decrease the administrative burden of the encounter coding process
- Effective January 1, 2023
- Applied the office-based coding documentation changes promulgated in the 2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule to "Other E/M visits"
  - Hospital inpatient and observation status patient encounters
  - Emergency Department patient encounters
  - Nursing Facility patient encounters
  - Home/residence services patient encounters
  - Cognitive Impairment Assessments
- Creates a unified set of coding documentation rules for office, hospital, and nursing home encounters



- Determine coding level by either a modified medical decision-making (MDM) approach or a total time dedicated (Time) approach
  - Note that only the modified medical decision-making approach applies to Emergency Department encounters and Cognitive Impairment Assessments
  - Note that only the total time dedicated applies to hospital discharge visits
- Encounter documentation includes a "medically appropriate" history and physical examination, but the history and exam does not determine the coding level



### • Total dedicated time methodology

- Include all personally dedicated time spent caring for patient before, during, and after the face-to-face encounter(s) on day of service
  - Time dedicated to patient admission that extends beyond midnight can be included in the day of admission time frame
  - Does not include travel time, teaching time, or time spent performing separately billable procedures
- A summary slide follows



### Total Dedicated Time Summary Table

| Encounter Type                         | Straightforward<br>Level Visit | Low-Level Visit       | Moderate-Level<br>Visit | High-Level Visit      |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Office (Established)                   | 99212: 10-19 min               | 99213: 20-29 min      | 99214: 30-39 min        | 99215: 40-54 min      |
| Office (new)                           | 99202: 15-29 min               | 99203: 30-44 min      | 99204: 45-59 min        | 99205: 60-74 min      |
| Hospital (initial, i.e.,<br>admits)    |                                | 99221: 40 min or more | 99222: 55 min or more   | 99223: 75 min or more |
| Hospital (admit/discharge<br>same day) |                                | 99234: 45 min or more | 99235: 70 min or more   | 99236: 85 min or more |
| Hospital (subsequent)                  |                                | 99231: 25 min or more | 99232: 35 min or more   | 99233: 50 min or more |
| Hospital (discharge)                   |                                | 99238: 30 min or less | 99239: 31 min or more   |                       |
| Nursing home (initial)                 |                                | 99304: 25 min or more | 99305: 35 min or more   | 99306: 45 min or more |
| Nursing home<br>(subsequent)           | 99307: 10-14 min               | 99308: 15 min or more | 99309: 30 min or more   | 99310: 45 min or more |

Adapted from K. Millette, MD, "The 2023 Hospital and Nursing Home E/M Visit Coding Changes." FPM, January/February 2023.



### • Medical Decision-Making methodology

- Four (4) levels of medical decision-making straightforward, low, moderate, and high based on three (3) factors – number and complexity of problems addressed, amount and complexity of data reviewed/considered, and patient risk of complications/morbidity/mortality
  - Level of E/M service selected is that satisfied by at least 2 of the 3 elements (problem, data, risk)
  - Similar to the office-based requirements
    - Level 1 initial or subsequent hospital visit criteria = level 3 office visit
    - Level 2 initial or subsequent hospital visit criteria = level 4 office visit
    - Level 3 initial or subsequent hospital visit criteria = level 5 office visit
  - Highest level of care applies for any of the following situations:
    - Escalating care (e.g., transfer to ICU)
    - Deescalating care or discussing DNR status due to poor prognosis
    - Initiating medications that require intensive monitoring
    - Deciding on emergency surgery regardless of patient risk factors



### Medical Decision-Making methodology – Problems

| CPT Code  | Level of MDM    | Number/complexity of Problems Addressed  |
|---|-----------------|--|
| 99202, 99212,99221,<br>99231, 99234, 99242,<br>99252  | Straightforward | 1 self-limited or minor problem  |
| 99203, 99213, 99221,<br>99231, 99234, 99243,<br>99253 | Low             | <ul> <li>2 or more self-limited or minor problems OR</li> <li>1 stable chronic illness OR</li> <li>1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury OR</li> <li>1 stable acute illness OR</li> <li>1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury requiring hospital inpatient or observation level of care</li> </ul>                 |
| 99204, 99214, 99222,<br>99232, 99235, 99244,<br>99254 | Moderate        | <ul> <li>1 or more chronic illnesses with exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; OR</li> <li>2 or more stable chronic illnesses; OR</li> <li>1 undiagnosed new problem with uncertain prognosis; OR</li> <li>1 acute illness with systemic symptoms; OR</li> <li>1 acute complicated injury</li> </ul> |
| 99205, 99215, 99223,<br>99233, 99236, 99245,<br>99255 | High            | <ul> <li>1 or more chronic illnesses with severe exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment;</li> <li>OR</li> <li>1 acute or chronic illness or injury that poses a threat to life or bodily function</li> </ul>  |

Adapted from American Society of Clinical Oncology "2023 Evaluation and Management Changes: Medical Decision-Making Simplified"



### Medical Decision-Making methodology – Data

| CPT Code                             | Level of MDM    | Amount and/or Complexity of Data to Be Reviewed and Analyzed   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| 99202, 99212,99221,<br>99231, 99234  | Straightforward | Minimal or none  |
| 99203, 99213, 99221,<br>99231, 99234 | Low             | <ul> <li>Low (Must meet at least 1 of 2 categories)</li> <li>Category 1: Tests and documents At least 2 of the following: <ul> <li>Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source</li> <li>Review of the result(s) of each unique test</li> <li>Ordering of each unique test OR</li> </ul> </li> <li>Category 2: Assessment requiring an independent historian(s)</li> </ul>   |
| 99204, 99214, 99222,<br>99232, 99235 | Moderate        | <ul> <li>Moderate (Must meet at least 1 out of 3 categories)</li> <li>Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s) Any combination of any 3 of the following: <ul> <li>Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source</li> <li>Review of the result(s) of each unique test</li> <li>Ordering of each unique test</li> <li>Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) OR</li> </ul> </li> <li>Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests <ul> <li>Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other qualified health care</li> <li>professional (not separately reported) OR</li> </ul> </li> <li>Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation <ul> <li>Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other qualified health care professional/appropriate source (not separately reported)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |



### Medical Decision-Making methodology – **Data** (continued)

| CPT Code                             | Level of MDM | Amount and/or Complexity of Data to Be Reviewed and Analyzed   |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| 99205, 99215, 99223,<br>99233, 99236 | High         | <ul> <li>High (Must meet at least 2 out of 3 categories)</li> <li>Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s) Any combination of 3 of the following: <ul> <li>Review of the result(s) of each unique test</li> <li>Ordering of each unique test</li> <li>Ordering of each unique test</li> <li>Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) OR</li> </ul> </li> <li>Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests <ul> <li>Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other qualified health care</li> <li>professional (not separately reported) OR</li> </ul> </li> <li>Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other health care professional/appropriate source (not separated reported)</li> </ul> |



### Medical Decision-Making methodology -- Risk

| CPT Code                             | Level of MDM    | Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| 99202, 99212,99221,<br>99231, 99234  | Straightforward | Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment  |
| 99203, 99213, 99221,<br>99231, 99234 | Low             | Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or<br>treatment   |
| 99204, 99214, 99222,<br>99232, 99235 | Moderate        | <ul> <li>Moderate risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment</li> <li>Examples:         <ul> <li>Prescription drug management</li> <li>Decision regarding minor surgery with identified risk factors</li> <li>Decision regarding elective major surgery without identified risk factors</li> <li>Social determinants of health affecting diagnosis or treatment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
| 99205, 99215, 99223,<br>99233, 99236 | High            | <ul> <li>High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment<br/>Examples:         <ul> <li>Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity</li> <li>Decision regarding major elective surgery with identified risk factors</li> <li>Decision regarding emergency major surgery</li> <li>Decision regarding hospitalization or escalation of hospital-level care</li> <li>Decision not to resuscitate or de-escalate care due to poor prognosis</li> <li>Parenteral controlled substances</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |



#### Compensation Impact

- Depends on the impact on historic individual coding curves and whether continue to use MDM or use total time spent
- Predominant opinion is that the 2023 coding documentation changes will not have a significant impact on most providers if use MDM but may increase levels if use time spent (CMS opinion)
- Greater impact may be with alterations of the clinical documentation templates in the EMR whose construction depended on the 1995/1997 coding documentation criteria and are heavily weighted toward counting systems reviewed and examined
- As in the office setting, utilizing total time criteria will require adequate documentation of time spent on various activities on the day of service – a requirement for which many providers are not accustomed
- As in the office setting, utilizing MDM criteria may require better documentation of thought processes and all items considered in the decision-making process which historic clinical documentation templates do not support well



# 2023 E/M Coding Changes



- Designed to decrease the administrative burden of the encounter coding process
- Effective January 1, 2023
- Inpatient and Observation Care Services
  - Deleted Observation Status codes 99217-99220 and 99224-99226
    - Merged the care into existing hospital care CPT codes
      - 99221-99223 Initial inpatient or observation care per calendar day ... 40, 55, and 75 minutes must be met or exceeded
      - 99231-99233 Subsequent inpatient or observation care per calendar day ... 25, 35, and 50 minutes must be met or exceeded
      - 99238-99239 Hospital discharge day management ... < 30 minutes or greater than 30 minutes
    - Conversion from Observation to Inpatient continues the services interval (subsequent care for inpatient when involved in Observation care v. new initial care) so the change makes this claims process more seamless
    - Retained CPT codes 99234-99236 ... Admission and Discharge on same day either inpatient or observation for which 45, 70, and 85 minutes must be met or exceeded
      - Retained 8 to 24-hour Rule



### Inpatient and Observation Care Services

• Summary of 8 to 24-hour Rule

| Hospital Length of Stay | Discharged On  | Code(s) to Bill  |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| < 8 hours               | Same calendar date as<br>admission or start of<br>observation        | Initial hospital services only*                          |
| 8 or more hours         | Same calendar date as<br>admission or start of<br>observation        | Same-day admission/discharge*                            |
| < 8 hours               | Different calendar date than<br>admission or start of<br>observation | Initial hospital services only*                          |
| 8 or more hours         | Different calendar date than<br>admission or start of<br>observation | Initial hospital services* +<br>discharge day management |

\* Plus prolonged inpatient/observation services, if applicable.

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### • Inpatient and Observation Care Services

- Modified the definitions of initial and subsequent care
  - Initial when the patient has not received any professional services from the physician or other qualified health care professional or another physician or other qualified health care professional of the same specialty *who belongs to the same group practice* during the stay
  - Subsequent when the patient has received any professional services from the physician or other qualified health care professional or another physician or other qualified health care professional of the same specialty *who belongs to the same group practice* during the stay.
  - May allow for greater wRVU accrual in instances of cross coverage by different groups of the same specialty during an inpatient or observation patient stay.
    - Member of different group of same specialty seeing patient for 1<sup>st</sup> time seemingly can bill initial rather than subsequent care
  - **Note** that CMS still considers APPs to be a different specialty than the physician specialist they work with
    - Re-iterated in the Final Rule



### Inpatient and Observation Care Services

• wRVU and Compensation Impact – Slight increases with 2023 coding re-evaluation

| Observation<br>Codes | wRVU<br>Values | Consolidated<br>Codes | wRVU<br>Values |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 99218                | 1.92           | 99221                 | 1.63           |
| 99219                | 2.60           | 99222                 | 2.60           |
| 99220                | 3.56           | 99223                 | 3.50           |
| 99224                | 0.76           | 99231                 | 1.00           |
| 99225                | 1.39           | 99232                 | 1.59           |
| 99226                | 2.00           | 99233                 | 2.40           |
| 99217                | 1.28           | 99238                 | 1.50           |

• Cross coverage by different group impact – marginal as a one-time per episode 0.53 wRVU difference



#### Consultation Services

- Deleted lowest level office (99241) and inpatient (99251) consultation codes
  - Aligns with four levels of medical decision-making (Office 99242-99245) (Inpatient/Observation 99252-99255)
  - Consistent with the elimination of the office E/M code 99201 in 2021 (New Patient 99202-99205)
  - Negligible compensation impact
- Note that CMS re-iterated that it does not pay for consultation codes

#### • Emergency Department Services

- Designated the lowest level code (99281) to describe visits that do not require a physician/APP
  - Similar to office code 99211
  - Negligible compensation impact
- Suture and Staple Removal
  - Added two add on codes for E/M codes for suture and/or staple removal regardless of who placed them
    - +15853 = Removing *either* sutures or staples without anesthesia
    - +15854 = Removing *both* sutures and staples without anesthesia
    - Both have revenue but zero wRVU value and, therefore, no impact on compensation



#### Chronic Pain Management Services

- Created new HCPCS codes for monthly bundled chronic pain management services
  - G3002 Required initial face-to-face visit of at least 30 minutes by physician or APP ... or ... first 30 minutes
    of CPM care provided by physician or APP per calendar month
  - G3003 Each additional 15 minutes of CPM by physician or APP per calendar month
- Bundled services include
  - Diagnosis, assessment and monitoring
  - Development, implementation, revision/maintenance of person-centered care plan
    - Includes strengths, goals, clinical needs, desired outcomes
  - Overall treatment management including medication management
  - Pain and health literacy counseling
  - Crisis management
  - Care coordination
- RHCs and FQHCs would capture under G0511 code

| Code  | Revenue | wRVU Value |
|-------|---------|------------|
| G3002 | \$80.99 | 1.45       |
| G3003 | \$29.48 | 0.50       |



### Nursing Facility Services

- Deleted code 99318 (annual nursing facility assessment)
  - Report through the subsequent care codes (99307-99310) marginal impact

| Deleted<br>Code | Duration   | wRVU Value | Code<br>Options | Duration   | wRVU Value |
|-----------------|------------|------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| 99318           | 30 minutes | 1.71       | 99307           | 10 minutes | 0.76       |
|                 |            |            | 99308           | 15 minutes | 1.16       |
|                 |            |            | 99309           | 25 minutes | 1.55       |
|                 |            |            | 99310           | 35 minutes | 2.35       |

- Adopted the same definitions for initial and subsequent as for inpatient/observation same specialty in same group
  - May have marginal impact on compensation in cross coverage situations (initial v. subsequent care the 1<sup>st</sup> time involved)



### Nursing Facility Services

• Revised wRVU values for codes 99304-99310 ... and some of the time spent requirements

| CPT Code | 2022 Duration          | 2022 wRVU<br>Value | 2023 Duration          | 2023 wRVU<br>Value |
|----------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 99304    | 25 minutes             | 1.64               | 25 minutes             | 1.50               |
| 99305    | 35 minutes             | 2.35               | 35 minutes             | 2.50               |
| 99306    | 45 minutes             | 3.06               | 45 minutes             | 3.50               |
| 99307    | 10 minutes             | 0.76               | 10 minutes             | 0.70               |
| 99308    | 15 minutes             | 1.16               | 15 minutes             | 1.30               |
| 99309    | 25 minutes             | 1.55               | 30 minutes             | 1.92               |
| 99310    | 35 minutes             | 2.35               | 45 minutes             | 2.80               |
| 99315    | <u>&lt;</u> 30 minutes | 1.28               | <u>&lt;</u> 30 minutes | 1.50               |
| 99316    | > 30 minutes           | 1.90               | > 30 minutes           | 2.50               |

• May experience an increase in wRVUs earned and resulting compensation



### Home and Residence Services

- Deleted domiciliary or rest home codes (New Patient 99324-99328; Established Patient 99334-99337)
   [Deleted 99339, 99340]
  - Merged with existing home visit codes 99341-99350 (New patient 99341-99345; Established patient 99347-99350) ... and deleted 99343 as duplicate medical decision-making criteria

| Deleted Code | Duration   | wRVU Value | Code Options | Duration   | wRVU Value |    |
|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|----|
| 99324        | 20 minutes | 1.01       | 99341        | 20 minutes | 1.00       |    |
| 99325        | 30 minutes | 1.52       | 99342        | 30 minutes | 1.65       |    |
| 99326        | 45 minutes | 2.63       | 99343        | 45 minutes | 2.53       |    |
| 99327        | 60 minutes | 3.46       | 99344        | 60 minutes | 2.87       | Po |
| 99328        | 75 minutes | 4.09       | 99345        | 75 minutes | 3.88       |    |
| 99334        | 15 minutes | 1.07       | 99347        | 15 minutes | 0.90       | de |
| 99335        | 25 minutes | 1.72       | 99348        | 25 minutes | 1.50       |    |
| 99336        | 40 minutes | 2.46       | 99349        | 40 minutes | 2.44       |    |
| 99337        | 60 minutes | 3.58       | 99350        | 60 minutes | 3.60       |    |



#### • Prolonged Services

- CMS and AMA CPT differ in approach
  - CMS Use requires exceeding the *maximum* time interval of the longest base code by 15 minutes to use the code
    - Use for every completed 15-minute increment starting 15 minutes after the longest base code interval
      - If highest code is 75 minutes in duration, the application of the prolonged services code starts at 90 minutes and can be billed when reach 105 minutes
  - AMA CPT Use requires exceeding the *minimum* time interval of the base code by 15 minutes to use the code
- CMS Prolonged Services Codes
  - G0316 prolonged services for inpatient and observation care services
    - Not applicable to hospital discharge services as the longer 99239 code applies
  - G0317 prolonged services for nursing facility services
  - G0318 prolonged services for home residence services
  - G2212 prolonged services for office or other outpatient services





- The Final Rule extended the deadline to move to "time spent" as the sole criterion for determining the billing provider for Split/Shared Visits until 2024 (from January 1, 2023)
- The 2022 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule delineated the following changes effective January 1, 2022:
  - **Definition.** An E/M visit in a facility setting that is performed in part by a physician and an APP who are in the same group.
    - Clarified that applies to Hospital, SNF locations of care
    - "Incident to" billing applies to office situations
  - Applicable Encounters.
    - Newly applied to new and established patients; initial and subsequent visits; critical care services; and prolonged services
    - Previously only applied to established patients



- The 2022 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule delineated the following changes:
  - Billing Provider Determination.
    - The 2022 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule advocated that the billing provider be determined by the individual who dedicated more than half of the total time spent on the day of service
      - Time spent criteria the same as for office-based and now inpatient total time determination
    - Based on public comment, the 2022 Final Rule allowed the billing provider to be determined as either the individual who spent more than half of the total time dedicated to the patient encounter on the date of service – or the individual that provided the entirety of H&P/assessment or medical decision making that the billing level required (except for critical care, which is solely time-based)
      - Tended to allow physicians be the billing provider with full reimbursement rates by indicating the physician provided 100% of the medical decision-making for the interaction(s)
    - The 2022 Final Rule also indicated that time spent would be only criterion starting in 2023
    - The 2023 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule continued the 2022 contingencies and projected that time spent would be the only criterion starting in 2024



- The 2022 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule also delineated the following changes:
  - Documentation Requirements. The billing provider must ...
    - Sign and date the encounter document
    - Clearly indicate the physician and APP involved in the patient's care and their roles in that care
    - Include the individual time and/or effort dedicated to the encounter in sufficient detail to justify the "Billing Provider" determination
  - Claims Submission.
    - E/M must be annotated by a specific modifier (FS) regardless of the provider type under which the encounter is billed
      - Permits identification and tracking of these encounters
      - Was not able to be done in the past without performing random manual record reviews
      - CMS stated modifier is important for ensuring program integrity
      - Interpreted to imply that these claims can now actually be tracked and audited
    - Previously identified these encounters through internal designations if at all
      - Billing Provider = Physician; Rendering Provider = APP
      - Internal modifier that was not reported externally



- Be ready for 2024 and ensure currently compliant with 2022 changes
- Compensation Impact
  - Workload Attribution/Production-Based Provider Compensation
    - Many organizations directly attribute wRVUs generated by Split/Shared Visits to the "Billing Provider"
    - Historically, the "Billing Provider" was generally the physician which allowed full reimbursement for the professional services rendered by the care team
    - If APP becomes the designated "Billing Provider" by performing the "substantive portion" of the encounter based on total time spent in 2024, the APP would be awarded all wRVU credit for these encounters
      - Most physician/APP care delivery models involve the APP spending significant time on each encounter so that the physician time spent is minimal and efficient and allows the physician to move on to other encounters
    - ... and the involved physicians' wRVU credit would plummet



### • Compensation Impact (continued)

- Consider implementing one of the following prior to 2024
  - Create team-based productivity incentive that pools earned wRVUs and distributes them equally among the involved physicians and APPs according to service or participation FTE .... **OR** ...
  - Create mechanism to distribute wRVUs associated with Split/Shared Visits among the contributing individuals for each encounter
    - 50/50 distribution promotes team-centered approach
    - Requires the ability to identify the individuals involved in each patient's care and determine a fair distribution methodology
       ... OR ...
  - Eliminate productivity component for shift-based providers, such as hospitalists, CCM
    - Incentivize covering additional shifts to augment base compensation
    - Incentivize nonproductivity elements like hospital clinical quality metric performance, committee participation, discharge summary completion, and others



### Reimbursement/Revenue Impact

- Since most organizations previously designated the physician as the "Billing Provider," received 100% of anticipated professional services revenue for the encounters
  - Compared to an APP as the "Billing Provider," which decreases revenue generation to 85% of the fee schedule amount for the services
- Most organizations would anticipate a significant shift in "Billing Provider" designation to APPs under the 2024 "time spent" designation
  - The APP model historically entails the APP spending the majority of time each day dedicated to these
    patient encounters so that the physician time is used most efficiently and spends less time with each
    patient than the APP spends
  - If this care delivery model holds true, organizations will receive 15% less revenue for the same volume and types of rendered professional services for many specialties



### Compliance Impact

- CMS' new requirement for adding a defined modifier to claims submitted for these visits allows them to be targeted for CMS audits
- Recommend internal audit process to ensure that the required documentation and billing parameters are routinely followed



# Telehealth





- The combination of the 2023 MPFS, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 and the previous Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 extended the COVID PHE waivers for 151 days beyond the end of the PHE – or the end of the calendar year ... whichever is greater
- The PHS has been extended into April 2023 which many feel will be the last extension
- The following waivers are likely to continue through December 31, 2023
  - The ability to see a patient in their own home regardless of geographic location
  - The expanded list of eligible providers (like PT, OT, speech)
  - The ability for RHCs and FQHCs to be distant site providers
  - The ability to provide audio-only encounters
  - The continued delay of the initial in-person visit requirement for mental health encounters
  - The continued reimbursement of telehealth encounters at in-person rates
  - The ability to waive Medicare co-pays for virtual communications (Virtual Check-ins, eVisits)







### **HSG** Core Offerings

HSG Advisors (HSG) partners with health systems to transform their approach to their markets, services, and providers for improved growth and operational and financial sustainability.

Headquarters: Louisville, KY Formed: 1999



### **HSG** CLAIMS DATA ANALYTICS

Evaluate competitive dynamics within markets, service lines, providers and patients based on all-player healthcare claims data analysis and HSG insights and expertise.



**HSG** STRATEGY

Define strategic goals and direction for your health systems' long-term growth plans that allows for the simultaneous pursuit of immediate market opportunities, focused on growth strategies and Medical Staff Development Planning.



### HSG EMPLOYED PROVIDER NETWORKS

Improve your financial and quality performance and overall Operational Excellence by building a Shared Vision and developing strong organizational, leadership, and governance support structures.



#### HSG COMPENSATION AND COMPLIANCE

Develop sustainable provider compensation solutions to achieve market competitiveness, financial sustainability, and regulatory compliance through compensation model development and implementation.

### **HSG Services**

HSG builds high-performing physician networks so health systems can address complex changes with confidence.



#### **HSG** CLAIMS DATA ANALYTICS

- HSG Outpatient and Physician Office Market Share<sup>™</sup>
- HSG Patient Share of Care<sup>™</sup>
- HSG Patient Flow<sup>™</sup>



### HSG STRATEGY

- Market Share Growth Strategy
- Medical Staff Development Planning
- Health System
   Strategic Planning



#### **HSG** EMPLOYED PROVIDER NETWORKS

- Operational and Financial Performance Improvement
- Network & Practice
   Turnaround
- Infrastructure and Leadership Growth



### **HSG** COMPENSATION AND COMPLIANCE

- Compensation Plan
   Design
- Fair Market Valuation Services
- Hospital-based Subsidy Arrangements



# HSG | Thank You