

Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 403(5))” on authority of Pub. L. 111-350, §6(c), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3854, which Act enacted Title 41, Public Contracts.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1395aaa, act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, §1890, as added Aug. 18, 1987, Pub. L. 100-93, §10, 101 Stat. 696, which related to limitation of liability of beneficiaries with respect to services furnished by excluded individuals and entities, was amended and transferred to section 1862(e)(2) of act Aug. 14, 1935, by Pub. L. 100-360, title IV, §411(i)(4)(D)(ii), July 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 790, as amended by Pub. L. 100-485, title VI, §608(d)(24)(C)(ii), Oct. 13, 1988, 102 Stat. 2421, and is classified to section 1395y(e)(2) of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2013—Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 112-240, §609(a)(2), struck out par. (4). Text read as follows: “The entity shall promote the development and use of electronic health records that contain the functionality for automated collection, aggregation, and transmission of performance measurement information.”

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 112-240, §609(a)(1), substituted “fiscal years 2009 through 2013” for “fiscal years 2009 through 2012”.

2010—Subsec. (b)(5)(A)(iv) to (vi). Pub. L. 111-148, §3014(a)(2), added cls. (iv) to (vi).

Subsec. (b)(6). Pub. L. 111-148, §3003(b), added par. (6).

Subsec. (b)(7). Pub. L. 111-148, §10304, substituted “quality and efficiency” for “quality” wherever appearing in text.

Pub. L. 111-148, §3014(a)(1), added par. (7).

Subsec. (b)(7)(B). Pub. L. 111-148, §10304, which directed substitution of “quality and efficiency” for “quality” wherever appearing, was executed by substituting “Quality and efficiency” for “Quality” in subpar. heading to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Subsec. (b)(7)(B)(i)(I). Pub. L. 111-148, §10322(b), inserted “1395ww(s)(4)(D),” after “1395ww(o)(2),”.

Subsec. (b)(8). Pub. L. 111-148, §3014(a)(1), added par. (8).

§ 1395aaa-1. Quality and efficiency measurement

(a) Multi-stakeholder group input into selection of quality and efficiency measures

The Secretary shall establish a pre-rule-making process under which the following steps occur with respect to the selection of quality and efficiency measures described in section 1395aaa(b)(7)(B) of this title:

(1) Input

Pursuant to section 1395aaa(b)(7) of this title, the entity with a contract under section 1395aaa of this title shall convene multi-stakeholder groups to provide input to the Secretary on the selection of quality and efficiency measures described in subparagraph (B) of such paragraph.

(2) Public availability of measures considered for selection

Not later than December 1 of each year (beginning with 2011), the Secretary shall make available to the public a list of quality and efficiency measures described in section 1395aaa(b)(7)(B) of this title that the Secretary is considering under this subchapter.

(3) Transmission of multi-stakeholder input

Pursuant to section 1395aaa(b)(8) of this title, not later than February 1 of each year (beginning with 2012), the entity shall transmit to the Secretary the input of multi-stakeholder groups described in paragraph (1).

(4) Consideration of multi-stakeholder input

The Secretary shall take into consideration the input from multi-stakeholder groups described in paragraph (1) in selecting quality and efficiency measures described in section 1395aaa(b)(7)(B) of this title that have been endorsed by the entity with a contract under section 1395aaa of this title and measures that have not been endorsed by such entity.

(5) Rationale for use of quality and efficiency measures

The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register the rationale for the use of any quality and efficiency measure described in section 1395aaa(b)(7)(B) of this title that has not been endorsed by the entity with a contract under section 1395aaa of this title.

(6) Assessment of impact

Not later than March 1, 2012, and at least once every three years thereafter, the Secretary shall—

(A) conduct an assessment of the quality and efficiency impact of the use of endorsed measures described in section 1395aaa(b)(7)(B) of this title; and

(B) make such assessment available to the public.

(b) Process for dissemination of measures used by the Secretary

(1) In general

The Secretary shall establish a process for disseminating quality and efficiency measures used by the Secretary. Such process shall include the following:

(A) The incorporation of such measures, where applicable, in workforce programs, training curricula, and any other means of dissemination determined appropriate by the Secretary.

(B) The dissemination of such quality and efficiency measures through the national strategy developed under section 280j of this title.

(2) Existing methods

To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall utilize and expand existing dissemination methods in disseminating quality and efficiency measures under the process established under paragraph (1).

(c) Review of quality and efficiency measures used by the Secretary

(1) In general

The Secretary shall—

(A) periodically (but in no case less often than once every 3 years) review quality and efficiency measures described in section 1395aaa(b)(7)(B) of this title; and

(B) with respect to each such measure, determine whether to—

- (i) maintain the use of such measure; or
- (ii) phase out such measure.

(2) Considerations

In conducting the review under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall take steps to—

(A) seek to avoid duplication of measures used; and

(B) take into consideration current innovative methodologies and strategies for quality and efficiency improvement practices in the delivery of health care services that represent best practices for such quality and efficiency improvement and measures endorsed by the entity with a contract under section 1395aaa of this title since the previous review by the Secretary.

(d) Rule of construction

Nothing in this section shall preclude a State from using the quality and efficiency measures identified under sections 1320b-9a and 1320b-9b of this title.

(e) Development of quality and efficiency measures

The Administrator of the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services shall through contracts develop quality and efficiency measures (as determined appropriate by the Administrator) for use under this chapter. In developing such measures, the Administrator shall consult with the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

(f) Hospital acquired conditions

The Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, publicly report on measures for hospital-acquired conditions that are currently utilized by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for the adjustment of the amount of payment to hospitals based on rates of hospital-acquired infections.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XVIII, §1890A, as added and amended Pub. L. 111-148, title III, §§3013(b), 3014(b), title X, §§10303(b), 10304, Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 383, 385, 938.)

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-148, §10304, substituted “quality and efficiency” for “quality” wherever appearing in text.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 111-148, §3013(b), added subsec. (e).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 111-148, §10303(b), added subsec. (f).

§ 1395bbb. Conditions of participation for home health agencies; home health quality

(a) Conditions of participation; protection of individual rights; notification of State entities; use of home health aides; medical equipment; individual’s plan of care; compliance with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations

The conditions of participation that a home health agency is required to meet under this subsection are as follows:

(1) The agency protects and promotes the rights of each individual under its care, including each of the following rights:

(A) The right to be fully informed in advance about the care and treatment to be provided by the agency, to be fully informed in advance of any changes in the care or treatment to be provided by the agency that may affect the individual’s well-being, and (except with respect to an individual adjudged incompetent) to participate in planning care and treatment or changes in care or treatment.

(B) The right to voice grievances with respect to treatment or care that is (or fails to be) furnished without discrimination or reprisal for voicing grievances.

(C) The right to confidentiality of the clinical records described in section 1395x(o)(3) of this title.

(D) The right to have one’s property treated with respect.

(E) The right to be fully informed orally and in writing (in advance of coming under the care of the agency) of—

(i) all items and services furnished by (or under arrangements with) the agency for which payment may be made under this subchapter,

(ii) the coverage available for such items and services under this subchapter, subchapter XIX of this chapter, and any other Federal program of which the agency is reasonably aware,

(iii) any charges for items and services not covered under this subchapter and any charges the individual may have to pay with respect to items and services furnished by (or under arrangements with) the agency, and

(iv) any changes in the charges or items and services described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii).

(F) The right to be fully informed in writing (in advance of coming under the care of the agency) of the individual’s rights and obligations under this subchapter.

(G) The right to be informed of the availability of the State home health agency hotline established under section 1395aa(a) of this title.

(2) The agency notifies the State entity responsible for the licensing or certification of the agency of a change in—

(A) the persons with an ownership or control interest (as defined in section 1320a-3(a)(3) of this title) in the agency,

(B) the persons who are officers, directors, agents, or managing employees (as defined in section 1320a-5(b) of this title) of the agency, and

(C) the corporation, association, or other company responsible for the management of the agency.

Such notice shall be given at the time of the change and shall include the identity of each new person or company described in the previous sentence.

(3)(A) The agency must not use as a home health aide (on a full-time, temporary, per diem, or other basis), any individual to provide items or services described in section 1395x(m) of this title on or after January 1, 1990, unless the individual—

(i) has completed a training and competency evaluation program, or a competency evaluation program, that meets the minimum standards established by the Secretary under subparagraph (D), and

(ii) is competent to provide such items and services.

For purposes of clause (i), an individual is not considered to have completed a training and