§ 484.220 Calculation of the adjusted national prospective 60-day episode payment rate for case-mix and area wage levels.

CMS adjusts the national prospective 60-day episode payment rate to account for the following:

(a) HHA case-mix using a case-mix index to explain the relative resource utilization of different patients. To address changes to the case-mix that are a result of changes in the coding or classification of different units of service that do not reflect real changes in case-mix, the national prospective 60-day episode payment rate will be adjusted downward as follows:

(1) For CY 2006, the adjustment is 2.75 percent.
(2) For CY 2007 and 2008, the adjustment is 2.75 percent in each year.
(3) For CY 2009 and 2010, the adjustment is 2.71 percent.

(b) Geographic differences in wage levels using an appropriate wage index based on the site of service of the beneficiary.

[72 FR 48679, Aug. 29, 2007]

§ 484.225 Annual update of the unadjusted national prospective 60-day episode payment rate.

(a) CMS updates the unadjusted national 60-day episode payment rate on a fiscal year basis.

(b) For fiscal year 2001, the unadjusted national 60-day episode payment rate is equal to the rate from the previous fiscal year (FY 2000) increased by the applicable home health market basket index amount.

(c) For fiscal year 2002, the unadjusted national 60-day episode payment rate is equal to the rate from the previous fiscal year (FY 2001) increased by the applicable home health market basket index amount.

(d) For the last three calendar quarters of 2004, the unadjusted national prospective 60-day episode payment rate is equal to the rate from the previous fiscal year (FY 2003) increased by the applicable home health market basket index amount.

(e) For the last the 3 calendar quarters of 2006, the unadjusted national prospective 60-day episode payment rate is equal to the rate from the previous calendar year (FY 2005) increased by the applicable home health market basket index amount.

(f) For calendar year 2007, the unadjusted national prospective 60-day episode payment rate is equal to the rate from the previous calendar year, increased by the applicable home health market basket index amount.

(g) For calendar year 2008, the unadjusted national prospective 60-day episode payment rate is equal to the rate from the previous calendar year, increased by the applicable home health market basket index amount.

(h) For calendar year 2009, the unadjusted national prospective 60-day episode payment rate is equal to the rate from the previous calendar year, increased by the applicable home health market basket index amount.

(i) For calendar year 2010, the unadjusted national prospective 60-day episode payment rate is equal to the rate from the previous calendar year, increased by the applicable home health market basket index amount.
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§ 484.245 Accelerated payments for home health agencies.

(a) General rule. Upon request, an accelerated payment may be made to an HHA that is receiving payment under the home health prospective payment system if the HHA is experiencing financial difficulties because there is a delay by the intermediary in making payment to the HHA.

(b) Approval of payment. An HHA’s request for an accelerated payment must be approved by the intermediary and CMS.

(c) Amount of payment. The amount of the accelerated payment is computed as a percentage of the net payment for unbilled or unpaid covered services.

(d) Recovery of payment. Recovery of the accelerated payment is made by