

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1184

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise Medicare coverage and payment for advanced surgical dressings in skilled nursing facilities and home health settings, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise Medicare coverage and payment for advanced surgical dressings in skilled nursing facilities and home health settings, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; PURPOSE.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.— This Act may be cited as the
5 “Medicare Skilled Nursing and Home Health Services
6 Continuity of Care Act of 2015”.

1 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to ensure
 2 Medicare beneficiary access to advance wound care prod-
 3 ucts while in a skilled nursing facility or while on a home
 4 health plan of care by allowing separate payment to be
 5 made for advanced surgical dressings under part B of title
 6 XVIII of the Social Security Act as a durable medical
 7 equipment prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS)
 8 benefit.

9 **SEC. 2. MEDICARE COVERAGE OF AND PAYMENT FOR AD-**
 10 **VANCED SURGICAL DRESSINGS FURNISHED**
 11 **IN A SKILLED NURSING FACILITY OR IN A**
 12 **HOME HEALTH SETTING AS DURABLE MED-**
 13 **ICAL EQUIPMENT.**

14 (a) EXCLUSION FROM PAYMENT AS PART OF
 15 SKILLED NURSING FACILITY SERVICES.—Section
 16 1888(e)(2)(A)(iii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 17 1395yy(e)(2)(A)(iii)) is amended by adding at the end the
 18 following:

19 “(VI) Surgical dressings (identi-
 20 fied as most current of January 1,
 21 2017, by HCPCS codes A4450–
 22 A6549, and as subsequently modified
 23 by the Secretary), if delivered to an
 24 individual who is a patient in a skilled

1 nursing facility for use during the in-
2 dividual’s stay in the facility.”.

3 (b) EXCLUSION FROM COVERAGE AS PART OF HOME
4 HEALTH SERVICES.—Section 1861(m)(5) of the Social
5 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(m)(5)) is amended by
6 striking “and durable medical equipment” and inserting
7 “, durable medical equipment, and surgical dressings
8 (identified as most current of January 1, 2017, by
9 HCPCS codes A4450–A6549, and as subsequently modi-
10 fied by the Secretary)”.

11 (c) PROCESSING OF CLAIMS FOR ADVANCED SUR-
12 GICAL DRESSINGS.—Section 1874A(a) of the Social Secu-
13 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395kk–1(a)) is amended by adding
14 at the end the following new paragraph:

15 “(7) USE OF MEDICARE ADMINISTRATIVE CON-
16 TRACTORS FOR PROCESSING CLAIMS FOR ADVANCED
17 SURGICAL DRESSINGS.—The Secretary shall provide
18 for the submission and processing of claims for sur-
19 gical dressings referred to in sections
20 1888(e)(2)(A)(iii)(VI) and 1861(m)(5) for payment
21 under part B by the same medicare administrative
22 contractors as process claims for other durable med-
23 ical equipment.”.

24 (d) EDUCATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM TO IMPROVE
25 QUALITY OF WOUND CARE.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
2 Human Services shall establish an education incen-
3 tive program to encourage each nursing facility,
4 skilled nursing facility, or home health agency cer-
5 tified under title XVIII or XIX of the Social Secu-
6 rity Act to provide their clinical staff members annu-
7 ally with access to wound care education. Such edu-
8 cation shall be of a scope and level to be determined
9 by the Secretary.

10 (2) MONITORING.—The Secretary shall estab-
11 lish a means of measuring such education on a reg-
12 ular basis, as determined by the Secretary.

13 (3) IMPACT AND INCENTIVES.—The Secretary
14 shall determine the overall impact of the education
15 incentive program on the quality of care provided.
16 The type and level of incentive to be provided under
17 the program shall be determined by the Secretary, in
18 the Secretary's discretion and subject to amounts
19 available in advance from appropriations, based on
20 the Secretary's determination of such impact.

21 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 this section shall apply to surgical dressings furnished on
23 or after January 1, 2017.

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