

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Nursing Facility Payment Demonstration Project Fact Sheet**

What is OPTIMISTIC?

The OPTIMISTIC Program of Indiana University (along with partners from University of Indianapolis, Regenstrief Institute, and Purdue University) is 1 of 6 sites in the country contracting with CMS to test a new payment model in nursing facilities. There are two groups of facilities: “Clinical + Payment” (19 facilities) & “Payment Only” (25 facilities). Clinical + Payment facilities have OPTIMISTIC clinical staff and are eligible to receive payments, while Payment Only facilities are only eligible to receive payments. All enrolled facilities and their providers complete a review process by CMS in order to participate in the project.

Payment + Clinical Facilities	Payment Only Facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible for payments • Continue to have OPTIMISTIC Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible for payments ONLY

The Goal

The goal is to reduce avoidable hospital transfers of long-stay residents (in the facility >100 days) who are not insured by Medicare managed care. The payment demonstration consists of 3 Medicare Part B billing codes – 1 for facilities and 2 for providers (MDs, NPs, and PAs). The intent is to provide resources to the facility and providers to deliver high level care in the facility.

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Facility Payments: Facilities will receive an additional \$218 per day, up to 7 days (or up to 5 days for Dehydration), for long stay residents with 1 of the 6 qualifying conditions. In order for the facility to bill, a provider has to certify that the resident has one of the conditions within 48 hours of the change in status.

Provider Payments: Providers will receive a \$205 payment for an initial visit to treat an acute change in condition in the facility (NP/PA bills 85% of rate), and \$77 for a care coordination and caregiver engagement visit.

Six Qualifying Conditions
Pneumonia
Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)
Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)
Dehydration
Skin ulcers, cellulitis
COPD, asthma

Items to Note:

- In the Payment + Clinical facilities, the OPTIMISTIC NPs can certify conditions but will not bill for their services.
- If the provider examines the patient and determines there is a different diagnosis, the provider still bills.
 - Facilities cannot bill if resident is currently on a Medicare Part A post-acute care stay.

Timeline

Facilities and providers began billing the 3 new codes on October 1st, 2016. Facilities must renew their commitment to the project each year, until the project’s end in October 2020. **Additional information is available on the OPTIMISTIC website: www.optimistic-care.org.** If you have any questions, please contact: info@optimistic-care.org or 317-274-9114.

