

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Special Open Door Forum:
Medicare Classification Criteria for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities

Monday, February 9, 2009
2:00 pm-4:00 pm Eastern Time

The purpose of this Special Open Door Forum (ODF) is to gather public input on the classification criteria commonly applicable to Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities, commonly known as the “75 percent rule.” The compliance percentage threshold is currently set at 60 percent. Public input from this meeting will be considered in the preparation of the Report to Congress required by the Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (MMSEA).

Background

CMS has contracted with RTI International to assist CMS in preparing the Report to Congress required by the Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (MMSEA). Specifically, RTI will examine and report on:

- (1) whether Medicare beneficiaries have access to medically necessary rehabilitation services and any potential effect of the “75% rule” on their access to appropriate care?
- (2) whether alternative criteria or refinements to the 75% rule could be used to determine IRF classification, including patients’ functional status, diagnosis, comorbidities, or other attributes?
- (3) whether IRF care is appropriate for certain other types of conditions which are commonly treated in IRFs, but are outside of the 13 conditions specified in the 75% rule? Are there differences in patient outcomes and costs when these cases are treated in different settings?

RTI’s 24 month contract includes two phases. The first phase consists primarily of reviewing the relevant literature and policy materials and compiling stakeholder input. The second phase involves conducting analyses utilizing administrative and clinical assessment data. CMS will be reporting on the first phase in a Report to Congress which is due June 2009. The RTI analysis will continue through 2009 with a final report to CMS by late 2010.

Comments should be limited. Longer written comments may be submitted via e-mail to IRFReporttoCongress@cms.hhs.gov. If possible, comments should be submitted to CMS in writing in advance of the Special ODF. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Julie Stankivic at (410) 786-5725.

We look forward to your participation

Special ODF participation Instructions:

Dial: 1-800-837-1935 & Reference Conference ID: 80702717

Note: TTY Communications Relay Services are available for the Hearing Impaired. For TTY services dial 7-1-1 or 1-800-855-2880 and for Internet Relay services click here <http://www.consumer.att.com/relay/which/index.html>. A Relay Communications Assistant will help.

An audio recording of this Special Forum will be posted to the Special Open Door Forum website at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/OpenDoorForums/05_ODF_SpecialODF.asp and will be accessible for downloading beginning February 18, 2009.

For automatic emails of Open Door Forum schedule updates (E-Mailing list subscriptions) and to view Frequently Asked Questions please visit our website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/opendoorforums/>

Thank you for your interest in CMS Open Door Forums.