

# TRANSPARENCY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## ***Made Prices Available to Consumers:***



- » Required hospitals to post their standard pricing information online in a machine-readable format, updating it at least once a year.
- » Required hospitals to make prices more transparent beginning in 2021.
- » Required insurance companies to disclose out-of-pocket costs up front.
- » Launched the Procedure Price Lookup, which allows consumers to compare Medicare payments and copayments for certain procedures that are performed in both hospital outpatient departments and ambulatory surgical centers. In 2020, CMS also added physician fees to the tool, offering people with Medicare a more accurate prediction of the true out-of-pocket costs.
- » Launched Care Compare, which includes visit cost estimate information for new and returning Medicare patients. Consumers searching for doctors & clinicians in Care Compare can see how much their visit may cost for specialists in their area to help inform their health care decisions.

## ***Ensured Access to Healthcare Coverage and Quality Information:***



- » Made quality information available for the first time on all Exchange plans to help consumers compare their coverage choices.
- » Launched a modernized and redesigned Medicare Plan Finder, the most used tool on Medicare.gov, allowing users to shop and compare Medicare Advantage and Part D plans and find information on extra benefits more easily.

## ***Unleashed Data for Beneficiaries:***



- » Created Blue Button 2.0 so beneficiaries can securely connect their data to apps and other tools developed by innovative companies that can help them organize and share their claims data, find health plans, make care appointments, and check symptoms.
- » Required hospitals and clinicians to be subject to potential payment reductions if they do not give patients access to their data.
- » Proposed to give patients access to their health information in a secure, understandable, user-friendly electronic format so they can make informed decisions about their healthcare.

## ***Unleashed Data for Stakeholders:***



- » Introduced the first-ever Medicaid & CHIP Scorecard to provide much-needed transparency on how well Medicaid is serving its beneficiaries.
- » For the first time, released a robust repository of research-ready Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (T-MSIS) data files so that stakeholders can answer questions about Medicaid and CHIP enrollment, services, and payment.
- » Launched the Provider Data Catalog (PDC), which provides downloadable and interactive datasets like those currently available on data.Medicare.gov. The PDC employs an Application Programming Interface (API), allowing innovators in the field to easily access and analyze CMS' publicly reported data.

## ***Ensured Timely Reporting and Access to Data During the COVID-19 Crisis:***



- » Required all 15,417 Medicare and Medicaid nursing homes to report cases of COVID-19 to all residents, their families, and the CDC.
- » Issued monthly data snapshots on the impact of COVID-19 on Medicare beneficiaries.
- » Released an enrollment trends report showing that thousands of Americans who lost job-based coverage during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and were able to take advantage of a special enrollment period to enroll in a plan through HealthCare.gov.
- » Released Medicaid and CHIP data on enrollment trends, telehealth utilization, and children's preventive care utilization during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.