

Appendix J  
Estimated Impact of an Annual  
Per-Beneficiary Outpatient  
Speech-Language Pathology Cap  
for CY 2002

## Key to Appendix J:

The tables in Appendix J provide an estimate of the number and percent of beneficiaries that might have been impacted by the outpatient therapy limitation in CY 2002 had it been applied to speech-language pathology (SLP) services as a separate cap.

Adjusting the \$1500 statutory cap per the Medicare Economic Index (MEI), the CY 2002 annual per-beneficiary limitation would have been \$1540 for incurred expenses (allowed amount)<sup>1</sup>. The Medicare paid amount represents the limitation after applicable deductible and coinsurance (20 percent) is applied. We estimate that in CY 2002, the average payment threshold before the cap limits were surpassed was \$1232<sup>2</sup>.

**The first column** in each table represents the demographic groups represented (e.g. age, gender, state of residence, principal claim diagnosis)<sup>3</sup>.

**The “Beneficiaries receiving SLP services” column** represents the total number of beneficiaries within each subgroup that received outpatient SLP services in CY 2002.

**The “Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold” column** identifies the estimated number of beneficiaries that surpassed the SLP financial limitation threshold in CY 2002.

**The “Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold” column** represents the estimated percentage of beneficiaries within all outpatient speech-language pathology patients in each subgroup that would have surpassed the financial limitations in CY 2002.

**The “Average paid above SLP cap threshold” column** represents the estimated average Medicare payment above the SLP cap threshold for all beneficiaries listed in the “Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold” column. For example, If Medicare paid \$2332, the payment above the cap threshold would be \$1000 ( $\$2332 \text{ paid} - \$1232 \text{ cap threshold} = \$1000$ ).

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<sup>1</sup> Medicare Claims Processing Manual (Pub. 104), Ch. 5, Section 10.2 *The Financial Limitation*.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary data analysis revealed that the average Medicare payment amount for outpatient therapy services was about 78-79 percent of the allowed fee schedule prices indicating that the deductible has negligible impact across all beneficiaries that received outpatient therapy services. This may be in part due to the referral requirement for outpatient therapy services. In most situations, the beneficiary's deductible is probably applied against the referring physician claim or other Part B claim that occurred earlier during the calendar year. The \$1232 threshold estimate is based upon the 20 percent coinsurance only ( $\$1540 * 80\% = \$1232$ ).

<sup>3</sup> Although beneficiaries may experience multiple episodes of one condition, or of separate conditions during a calendar year, this analysis classifies a beneficiary's diagnosis for the entire year based only upon the principal claim diagnosis first reported during the year for that therapy type.

**The “Total paid above SLP cap” threshold column** represents the estimated total Medicare expenditures above a SLP cap threshold in CY 2002 (“Total paid above SLP cap” = “Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold” \* “Average paid above SLP cap threshold”).

**The “Beneficiaries that did not or could not access hospital outpatient SLP” columns** represents the estimated likelihood of beneficiaries surpassing the cap threshold limits when they are unable to, or choose not to receive outpatient SLP services from an outpatient hospital provider.

**Appendix J-Table 1 Speech-Language Pathology Cap Impact by Beneficiary Age**

Age group	Beneficiaries receiving SLP services	Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Average paid above SLP cap threshold	Total paid above SLP cap threshold	Beneficiaries that did not or could not access hospital outpatient SLP	
						Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold
<b>Total</b>	<b>367,783</b>	<b>41,765</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>\$1,195</b>	<b>\$49,906,251</b>	<b>37,116</b>	<b>88.9%</b>
<65	32,658	3,208	9.8%	\$1,470	\$4,715,888	2,877	89.7%
65-69	29,147	2,574	8.8%	\$1,387	\$3,568,954	2,224	86.4%
70-74	42,697	4,173	9.8%	\$1,340	\$5,590,777	3,634	87.1%
75-79	60,341	6,686	11.1%	\$1,296	\$8,663,451	5,806	86.8%
80-84	71,961	8,735	12.1%	\$1,152	\$10,065,341	7,721	88.4%
85-89	67,799	8,718	12.9%	\$1,108	\$9,662,857	7,864	90.2%
90+	63,180	7,671	12.1%	\$996	\$7,639,165	6,990	91.1%

**Appendix J-Table 2 Speech-Language Pathology Cap Impact by Beneficiary Gender**

Gender group	Beneficiaries receiving SLP services	Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Average paid above SLP cap threshold	Total paid above SLP cap threshold	Beneficiaries that did not or could not access hospital outpatient SLP	
						Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold
<b>Total</b>	<b>367,783</b>	<b>41,765</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>\$1,195</b>	<b>\$49,906,251</b>	<b>37,116</b>	<b>88.9%</b>
Female	231,647	27,547	11.9%	\$1,169	\$32,211,809	24,882	90.3%
Male	136,135	14,217	10.4%	\$1,245	\$17,693,767	12,233	86.0%

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**Appendix J-Table 3 Speech-Language Pathology Cap Impact by Beneficiary State**

State group	Beneficiaries receiving SLP services	Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Average paid above SLP cap threshold	Total paid above SLP cap threshold	Beneficiaries that did not or could not access hospital outpatient SLP	
						Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold
<b>Total</b>	<b>367,783</b>	<b>41,765</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>\$1,195</b>	<b>\$49,906,251</b>	<b>37,116</b>	<b>88.9%</b>
AK - Alaska	332	19	5.7%	\$1,067	\$20,277	16	84.2%
AL - Alabama	5,831	1,101	18.9%	\$1,216	\$1,338,794	1,038	94.3%
AR - Arkansas	3,334	377	11.3%	\$1,193	\$449,821	301	79.8%
AZ - Arizona	3,621	241	6.7%	\$1,129	\$271,981	215	89.2%
CA - California	20,772	2,605	12.5%	\$1,496	\$3,896,898	2,281	87.6%
CO - Colorado	4,124	360	8.7%	\$1,059	\$381,280	315	87.5%
CT - Connecticut	6,066	496	8.2%	\$997	\$494,452	440	88.7%
DC - District of Columbia	817	143	17.5%	\$1,125	\$160,875	123	86.0%
DE - Delaware	1,227	107	8.7%	\$833	\$89,085	94	87.9%
FL - Florida	27,146	3,987	14.7%	\$1,123	\$4,475,966	3,533	88.6%
GA - Georgia	7,453	809	10.9%	\$1,079	\$872,628	732	90.5%
HI - Hawaii	814	15	1.8%	\$587	\$8,805	11	73.3%
IA - Iowa	5,926	233	3.9%	\$1,161	\$270,564	202	86.7%
ID - Idaho	1,622	176	10.9%	\$1,104	\$194,256	158	89.8%
IL - Illinois	17,287	1,307	7.6%	\$1,095	\$1,431,453	1,145	87.6%
IN - Indiana	11,148	1,229	11.0%	\$1,145	\$1,406,652	1,079	87.8%
KS - Kansas	4,203	341	8.1%	\$1,101	\$375,393	290	85.0%
KY - Kentucky	7,062	754	10.7%	\$1,037	\$782,064	655	86.9%
LA - Louisiana	6,720	1,683	25.0%	\$1,469	\$2,472,058	1,456	86.5%
MA - Massachusetts	9,691	880	9.1%	\$1,037	\$912,366	799	90.8%
MD - Maryland	7,015	610	8.7%	\$1,104	\$673,196	521	85.4%
ME - Maine	1,922	71	3.7%	\$789	\$56,036	63	88.7%
MI - Michigan	13,899	958	6.9%	\$1,094	\$1,047,889	848	88.5%

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State group	Beneficiaries receiving SLP services	Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Average paid above SLP cap threshold	Total paid above SLP cap threshold	Beneficiaries that did not or could not access hospital outpatient SLP	
						Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold
MN - Minnesota	6,435	324	5.0%	\$1,143	\$370,232	283	87.3%
MO - Missouri	9,972	1,486	14.9%	\$1,164	\$1,729,942	1,333	89.7%
MS - Mississippi	4,380	1,015	23.2%	\$1,570	\$1,593,195	882	86.9%
MT - Montana	1,150	67	5.8%	\$1,004	\$67,277	61	91.0%
NC - North Carolina	11,583	1,665	14.4%	\$1,331	\$2,215,632	1,431	85.9%
ND - North Dakota	1,081	43	4.0%	\$923	\$39,704	36	83.7%
NE - Nebraska	2,616	157	6.0%	\$870	\$136,570	132	84.1%
NH - New Hampshire	2,004	112	5.6%	\$1,153	\$129,165	103	92.0%
NJ - New Jersey	9,970	1,202	12.1%	\$1,271	\$1,527,742	1,080	89.9%
NM - New Mexico	1,896	263	13.9%	\$1,622	\$426,591	240	91.3%
NV - Nevada	1,280	172	13.4%	\$1,795	\$308,811	157	91.3%
NY - New York	19,699	1,098	5.6%	\$1,527	\$1,676,470	976	88.9%
OH - Ohio	23,049	3,107	13.5%	\$989	\$3,071,549	2,871	92.4%
OK - Oklahoma	3,690	721	19.5%	\$1,316	\$948,822	683	94.7%
OR - Oregon	3,174	146	4.6%	\$1,264	\$184,508	130	89.0%
PA - Pennsylvania	27,599	3,268	11.8%	\$967	\$3,159,633	2,846	87.1%
PR - Puerto Rico	143	11	7.7%	\$658	\$7,240	9	81.8%
RI - Rhode Island	1,653	133	8.0%	\$835	\$111,028	112	84.2%
SC - South Carolina	5,424	598	11.0%	\$1,290	\$771,617	530	88.6%
SD - South Dakota	980	53	5.4%	\$822	\$43,545	47	88.7%
TN - Tennessee	7,959	905	11.4%	\$1,235	\$1,117,630	779	86.1%
TX - Texas	20,273	3,254	16.1%	\$1,340	\$4,360,718	3,032	93.2%
UT - Utah	1,479	97	6.6%	\$1,211	\$117,452	89	91.8%
VA - Virginia	9,976	1,403	14.1%	\$1,163	\$1,631,114	1,250	89.1%
VT - Vermont	949	68	7.2%	\$1,259	\$85,603	55	80.9%

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State group	Beneficiaries receiving SLP services	Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Average paid above SLP cap threshold	Total paid above SLP cap threshold	Beneficiaries that did not or could not access hospital outpatient SLP	
						Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold
WA - Washington	6,988	564	8.1%	\$1,156	\$652,035	516	91.5%
WI - Wisconsin	10,090	719	7.1%	\$916	\$658,546	619	86.1%
WV - West Virginia	3,547	540	15.2%	\$1,106	\$597,159	452	83.7%
WY - Wyoming	569	60	10.5%	\$1,260	\$75,605	57	95.0%
Other	143	12	8.4%	\$711	\$8,534	10	83.3%

### Appendix J-Table 4 Speech-Language Pathology Cap Impact by Beneficiary Claim Diagnosis

Claim diagnosis group		Beneficiaries receiving SLP services	Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Average paid above SLP cap threshold	Total paid above SLP cap threshold
ICD-9 Code	Diagnosis Description					
<b>Total</b>	<b>All Reported Diagnoses</b>	<b>367,783</b>	<b>41,765</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>\$1,195</b>	<b>\$49,906,251</b>
787.2	Dysphagia	101,201	8,570	8.5%	\$1,106	\$9,478,334
436	Acute, but ill-defined, cerebrovascular disease	22,411	3,723	16.6%	\$1,533	\$5,707,955
V57.3	Speech therapy	12,630	212	1.7%	\$1,266	\$268,492
781.2	Abnormality of gait	9,546	1,551	16.2%	\$1,109	\$1,719,904
V57.1	Other physical therapy	7,724	140	1.8%	\$1,142	\$159,886
331.0	Alzheimer's Disease	7,545	818	10.8%	\$829	\$677,975
332.0	Parkinson's Disease, paralysis agitans	7,047	1,161	16.5%	\$1,212	\$1,407,643
428.0	Congestive Heart Failure, unspecified	4,469	654	14.6%	\$1,068	\$698,394
486	Pneumonia, unspecified	4,392	589	13.4%	\$1,079	\$635,655
719.70	Difficulty in walking, site unspecified	4,384	756	17.2%	\$1,118	\$845,079
799.3	Debility, unspecified	4,251	716	16.8%	\$1,101	\$788,295
780.9	Other general symptoms	4,231	836	19.8%	\$1,216	\$1,016,584
784.5	Other speech disturbance	4,039	369	9.1%	\$1,435	\$529,688
290.0	Senile dementia, uncomplicated	3,964	468	11.8%	\$847	\$396,223
438.0	Late effects of cerebrovascular disease, cognitive deficits	3,417	713	20.9%	\$1,306	\$931,035
784.3	Aphasia	3,202	603	18.8%	\$1,524	\$919,062
784.49	Other voice disturbance	3,105	48	1.5%	\$1,262	\$60,567
728.2	Muscular wasting and disuse atrophy, not elsewhere classified	3,072	629	20.5%	\$1,143	\$718,639
294.8	Other specific organic brain syndromes (chronic)	3,063	315	10.3%	\$880	\$277,269
250.00	Type II Diabetes Mellitus without mention of complication	3,061	571	18.7%	\$1,094	\$624,703
V57.89	Other care involving rehabilitation procedures, multiple training or therapy	2,944	81	2.8%	\$1,233	\$99,908
401.9	Essential hypertension, unspecified	2,935	519	17.7%	\$1,201	\$623,464
438.82	Late effects of cerebrovascular disease, dysphagia	2,661	313	11.8%	\$1,194	\$373,656

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Claim diagnosis group		Beneficiaries receiving SLP services	Beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Percent of beneficiaries surpassing SLP cap threshold	Average paid above SLP cap threshold	Total paid above SLP cap threshold
ICD-9 Code	Diagnosis Description					
820.8	Fracture of neck of femur, unspecified part of neck, closed	2,503	412	16.5%	\$982	\$404,605
438.20	Late effects of cerebrovascular disease, hemiplegia affecting unspecified side	2,496	333	13.3%	\$1,385	\$461,238
728.9	Unspecified disorder of muscle, ligament, and fascia	2,419	467	19.3%	\$1,228	\$573,467
496	Chronic airway obstruction, not elsewhere classified	2,408	353	14.7%	\$1,071	\$378,070
780.79	Other malaise and fatigue	2,377	372	15.6%	\$1,199	\$445,976
599.0	Chronic pyelonephritis	2,180	344	15.8%	\$1,136	\$390,791
438.9	Unspecified late effects of cerebrovascular disease	2,136	267	12.5%	\$1,195	\$319,057
715.90	Osteoarthroses, unspecified whether generalized or localized, site unspecified	1,974	292	14.8%	\$1,096	\$320,160
781.92	Abnormal posture	1,875	328	17.5%	\$980	\$321,328
507.0	Pneumonitis due to solids and liquids due to inhalation of food or vomitus	1,841	183	9.9%	\$1,234	\$225,848
786.2	Cough	1,784	35	2.0%	\$1,441	\$50,439
435.9	Unspecified transient cerebral ischemia	1,727	220	12.7%	\$1,161	\$255,466
434.91	Cerebral artery occlusion, unspecified, with cerebral infarction	1,697	160	9.4%	\$1,843	\$294,848
438.11	Late effects of cerebrovascular disease, aphasia	1,692	207	12.2%	\$1,703	\$352,598
783.3	Feeding difficulties and mismanagement	1,646	227	13.8%	\$982	\$222,828
V57.21	Occupational therapy encounter	1,443	32	2.2%	\$2,049	\$65,556
250.01	Type I Diabetes Mellitus without mention of complication	1,372	294	21.4%	\$1,212	\$356,304
438.21	Late effects of cerebrovascular disease, hemiplegia affecting dominant side	1,300	291	22.4%	\$1,494	\$434,667
781.3	Lack of coordination	1,291	218	16.9%	\$1,194	\$260,259
340	Multiple sclerosis	1,282	179	14.0%	\$1,261	\$225,712
724.2	Lumbago	1,152	86	7.5%	\$1,019	\$87,652
438.89	Other late effects of cerebrovascular disease	1,123	105	9.3%	\$1,078	\$113,202
530.81	Esophageal reflux	1,105	54	4.9%	\$1,131	\$61,088
707.0	Decubitus ulcer	1,102	142	12.9%	\$1,137	\$161,436

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ICD-9 Code	Diagnosis Description					
719.79	Difficulty in walking, multiple sites	1,034	228	22.1%	\$1,146	\$261,217
438.22	Late effects of cerebrovascular disease, hemiplegia affecting non-dominant side	1,029	198	19.2%	\$1,340	\$265,316
276.5	Disorders of fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base balance, volume depletion	1,026	134	13.1%	\$1,072	\$143,621
718.44	Contracture of joint, hand	1,015	183	18.0%	\$1,004	\$183,668
427.31	Atrial fibrillation	978	124	12.7%	\$1,069	\$132,545
780.39	Other convulsions	929	135	14.5%	\$1,350	\$182,239
414.00	Chronic ischemic heart disease of unspecified type of vessel	924	145	15.7%	\$1,093	\$158,544
518.81	Acute respiratory failure	921	97	10.5%	\$1,347	\$130,619
784.60	Symbolic dysfunction, unspecified	875	215	24.6%	\$1,206	\$259,204
733.00	Osteoporosis, unspecified	844	136	16.1%	\$1,122	\$152,622
298.9	Unspecified psychosis	839	105	12.5%	\$915	\$96,050
342.90	Hemiplegia, unspecified type, unspecified side	831	135	16.2%	\$1,461	\$197,232
780.2	Syncope and collapse	828	101	12.2%	\$1,126	\$113,773
578.9	Hemorrhage of gastrointestinal tract, unspecified	798	212	26.6%	\$1,106	\$234,442
729.9	Other and unspecified disorders of soft tissues	772	124	16.1%	\$1,200	\$148,747
294.10	Dementia in conditions classified elsewhere without behavioral disturbance	764	113	14.8%	\$969	\$109,505
431	Intracerebral hemorrhage	715	107	15.0%	\$1,927	\$206,204
729.89	Other musculoskeletal symptoms referable to limbs	691	141	20.4%	\$1,222	\$172,327
290.40	Arteriosclerotic dementia, uncomplicated	685	81	11.8%	\$883	\$71,500
933.1	Foreign body in larynx, choking due to food/phlegm	683	13	1.9%	\$645	\$8,386
311	Depressive disorder, not elsewhere classified	668	114	17.1%	\$1,154	\$131,587
438.12	Late effects of cerebrovascular disease, dysphasia	665	96	14.4%	\$1,452	\$139,407
335.20	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis	651	19	2.9%	\$1,792	\$34,044
784.69	Other symbolic dysfunction	622	119	19.1%	\$1,328	\$158,082

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ICD-9 Code	Diagnosis Description					
161.9	Malignant neoplasm of larynx, unspecified	599	7	1.2%	\$1,138	\$7,963
784.9	Other systems involving head and neck, choking sensation	597	7	1.2%	\$879	\$6,156
343.9	Infantile cerebral palsy, unspecified	582	75	12.9%	\$1,607	\$120,511
719.41	Pain in joint, shoulder region	572	53	9.3%	\$972	\$51,530
718.49	Contracture of joint, multiple sites	565	102	18.1%	\$965	\$98,411
715.09	Osteoarthroses, generalized, multiple sites	565	122	21.6%	\$1,422	\$173,444
438.10	Late effects of cerebrovascular disease, speech and language deficit, unspecified	555	53	9.5%	\$1,307	\$69,283
285.9	Anemia, unspecified	551	83	15.1%	\$1,038	\$86,168
389.10	Sensorineural hearing loss, unspecified	548	14	2.6%	\$1,125	\$15,746
038.9	Unspecified septicemia	544	68	12.5%	\$1,261	\$85,773
290.10	Presenile dementia, uncomplicated	533	63	11.8%	\$1,280	\$80,637
854.00	Intracranial injury of other and unspecified nature, without mention of open intracranial wound	531	60	11.3%	\$1,847	\$110,849
716.90	Arthropathy, unspecified, site unspecified	530	84	15.8%	\$937	\$78,745
781.99	Other symptoms involving nervous and musculoskeletal systems	526	84	16.0%	\$1,107	\$93,021
820.21	Fracture of neck of femur, pertrochanteric, closed, intertrochanteric section	526	79	15.0%	\$1,250	\$98,711
784.40	Voice disturbance, unspecified	525	15	2.9%	\$1,303	\$19,542
478.5	Other diseases of vocal cords	495	5	1.0%	\$1,942	\$9,711
478.30	Paralysis of vocal cords or larynx, unspecified	494	6	1.2%	\$685	\$4,113
723.1	Cervicalgia	482	18	3.7%	\$1,039	\$18,702
719.75	Difficulty in walking, pelvic region and thigh	460	98	21.3%	\$1,299	\$127,331
729.5	Pain in limb	458	44	9.6%	\$870	\$38,264
319	Unspecified mental retardation	454	30	6.6%	\$798	\$23,942
715.00	Osteoarthroses, generalized, site unspecified	444	64	14.4%	\$712	\$45,562
244.9	Unspecified acquired hypothyroidism	444	80	18.0%	\$1,288	\$103,020

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ICD-9 Code	Diagnosis Description					
437.9	Unspecified cerebrovascular disease or lesion	442	81	18.3%	\$1,136	\$91,990
719.76	Difficulty in walking, lower leg	428	78	18.2%	\$685	\$53,458
443.9	Peripheral vascular disease, unspecified	411	63	15.3%	\$1,053	\$66,345
784.41	Aphonia	410	33	8.0%	\$1,562	\$51,543
780.4	Dizziness and giddiness	403	47	11.7%	\$1,190	\$55,931