

# Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model Community Transformation Track

## Rural Health Value

Session #4: Calculating a Capitated Payment Amount for CHART Participant Hospitals

February 4, 2021



RURAL POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis



## **Understanding and Facilitating Rural Health Transformation**

- To build and distribute an actionable knowledge base through research, practice, and collaboration that helps create high performance rural health systems.
- Led by the University of Iowa RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis and Stratis Health
- Funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy



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# Rural Health Value

UNDERSTANDING  
AND FACILITATING  
RURAL HEALTH  
TRANSFORMATION.



## *Let's Talk about CHART!*

- Series of pre-application sessions for those considering applying or being part of CHART
- Slides, Q&A document, and registration available on the RHV website:
- <https://ruralhealthvalue.publichealth.uiowa.edu/InD/CHART/index.php>

# Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model

- The CHART Community Transformation Track
  - A hospital payment model (and more) that pays for inpatient and outpatient hospital services using a Capitated Payment Amount (CPA).
- Timeline
  - Applications due: March 16, 2021
  - Awardee selection: July 2021
  - Pre-Implementation Period: August 2021 – December 2022
  - Performance Periods: January 2023 – December 2028

# “Community”

- CHART requires organizing a “Community.”
- The Community must be comprised of county(ies) or Census tract(s) classified by FORHP as “rural”
  - Rural determination: <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health>
  - May be single or a group (contiguous or non-contiguous)
  - Must include 10,000 fee-for-service Medicare beneficiaries, Medicare Advantage beneficiaries are not included

CHART NOFO, page 19

- Warning: this is not the traditional way we think of the word “community!”

# Lead Organization

- The organization that receives CMMI grant funding
- Requirements
  - Presence in Community for at least one year
  - Rural health expertise
  - Alternate payment models experience
  - Received grants totaling  $\geq$  \$500,000 in past 3 years
  - Provider agreements maintenance experience
  - Managing diverse stakeholder relationship experience

CHART NOFO, pages 18-19

# Participant Hospitals

- Physically located within the Community and receives at least 20% of its Original Medicare (FFS) revenue from Eligible Hospital Services provided to Community residents; or,
- Physically located inside or outside of the Community and responsible for at least 20% Original Medicare (FFS) expenditures for Eligible Hospital Services provided to Community residents.
- CMMI will review applications for exceptions.

CHART NOFO, page 24

# Disclaimer

*“The CPA methodology is included in this NOFO for informational purposes and may change at CMMI’s sole discretion...”*

CHART NOFO, page 114

CMMI is always the final authority for the participant hospital financing methodology details presented in this webinar.

Contact CMMI at [CHARTModel@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:CHARTModel@cms.hhs.gov)



# Six-step Methodology to Determine Participant Hospital CPA

- The process by which a Participant Hospital's CPA is calculated.
- CMMI will calculate each applicant hospital's CPA.
- CMMI will provide the CPA to the hospital for review prior to requiring a signed agreement.
- Two methodology phases
  - Community Prospective Benchmark (Steps 1-3)
  - Participant Hospital CPA Calculation (Steps 4-6)

# Step 1: Determine Community's Baseline Expenditures

- Define the “Community”
  - A FORHP-defined rural county or Census tract – or a collection of rural counties or Census tracts (need not be contiguous)
- Assign beneficiaries
  - Medicare eligible
  - Reside in community (evaluated monthly)
- Include inpatient/outpatient hospital expenditures (averaging 2018-2019, not 2020)
  - Physician services are not included
  - CAH Swing bed expenditures are included

## Step 2: Determine Changes between Community Baseline Expenditures and Prior Performance Period

- Apply trend in Original Medicare (FFS) expenditures
- Exclude outliers (>99<sup>th</sup> percentile) – optional
- Adjust for population change
- Adjust for demographic change
- Adjust for any PPS and CAH payment policy changes

# Step 3: Apply Adjustments from Step 2 to Determine the Community Benchmark

Community  
Baseline  
Expenditures  
from Step 1

X

Baseline  
adjustments  
from Step 2

=

Community  
Benchmark

# Step 4: Determine Each Participant Hospital's Portion of the Community Expenditure

$$\frac{\text{Sum IP/OP Hospital payments}}{\text{Community Baseline Expenditures from Step 1}} \times \text{Community Benchmark from Step 3} = \text{Hospital Base CPA}$$

# Step 5: Determine Each Hospital's Adjustments

- Apply quality adjustment
  - CMS quality payment adjustments for PPS continue.
  - CAHs are excluded from quality payment adjustment.
- Apply special designation status; e.g., CAH, SCH, MDH
- Apply Discount (a reduction to CPA) to reward larger Communities and attract payers.
  - CPA reduction increases from 0.5% to 4.0% for Communities with <\$15 million Original Medicare (FFS) revenue.
  - Reduction increases over time for all but largest Communities.
  - Lead Organization may use grant dollars to offset Discount.

CHART NOFO, pages 117-118

# Step 6: Apply Each Participant Hospital Adjustments

Hospital Base CPA  
from Step 4

x

Hospital  
Adjustments  
from Step 5

=

Participant  
Hospital CPA  
(divided into  
bi-weekly  
payments)

# Important Notes 1

- CMMI will provide an applicant hospital its CPA before the hospital is required to sign an agreement.
- Historic baseline expenditures will be rebalanced only once after COVID volatility ends (model continues through 2028).
- Minimum Community size is 10,000 Original Medicare (FFS) beneficiaries (Medicare Advantage beneficiaries are not included).
- A Discount (a reduction in CPA) is added to encourage payer participation.
- The Discount (a reduction in CPA) is greater for smaller Communities to encourage configuration of larger Communities.



# Important Notes 2

- Financial penalties for quality continue for PPS hospitals, but financial quality penalties are not applied to CAHs.
- Population, demographic, and market shift adjustments are unknowns, but CMS will not recoup overpayments.
- CAH Swing Bed revenue is included in the CPA.
- Hospitals transferring services (i.e., planned service line shifts) will receive fixed costs for two years and hospitals accepting new services will receive variable costs for two years.
- A hospital may exit the model with advance notice. The hospital is allowed a two-year transition back to its previous payment system.

# Panel Discussion

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# Questions