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Drugs/Vaccines Covered Incident to a Physician's Visit -- 16. Blood -- 17. Partial Hospitalization Services Connected to Treatment of Mental Illness -- 18. Ambulance Services -- PARTS A AND B -- 1. Home Health -- 2. End-Stage Renal Disease -- PART C -- Managed Care Organizations -- PART D. Outpatient Prescription Drug Coverage -- CRS REPORTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -- CRS STAFF, BY MEDICARE ISSUE -- REFERENCES -- MEDICARE: PAYMENTS TO PHYSICIANS\* -- ABSTRACT -- INTRODUCTION: THE MEDICARE FEE SCHEDULE -- Why the Fee Schedule Was Enacted -- Calculation of the Fee Schedule -- Beneficiary Protections -- Participation Agreements -- Submission of Claims -- Refinements in Relative Value Units -- SUSTAINABLE GROWTH RATE (SGR) SYSTEM -- Conversion Factor Calculation -- Update Adjustment Factor -- Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) -- Major Changes in Update Calculation -- Criticisms of Current System -- Suggested Modifications -- Recent Actions -- OTHER ISSUES -- 2007 and 2008 Fee Schedules -- Imaging Services -- Impact of Spending Increases on Part B Premiums -- Access to Care -- Geographic Variation in Payments -- Medicare Versus Private Payment Rates -- Payments for Oncology Services -- Concierge Care -- RECENT LEGISLATION -- Changes Made by MMA, DRA, TRHCA -- Legislation in the First Session of the 110th Congress -- Legislation in the Second Session of the 110th Congress: MIPPA -- APPENDIX A. CALCULATION OF THE PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE -- Calculation of the Physician Fee Schedule -- Calculation of the Update to the Conversion Factor (CF) -- Calculation of the Update Adjustment Factor (UAF) -- APPENDIX B. MMA, DRA, TRHCA, AND MMSEA PROVISIONS RELATING TO PHYSICIANS -- MMA -- DRA -- TRHCA -- MMSEA -- APPENDIX C. GEOGRAPHIC ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE -- Legislative Background -- Calculation[37] -- APPENDIX D. DEVELOPMENT OF PRACTICE EXPENSE PAYMENT METHODOLOGY -- Practice Expenses -- APPENDIX E. PRIVATE CONTRACTING RULES -- How Private Contracting Works -- Issues -- REFERENCES -- INDEX.

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Sommario/riassunto

Explores Medicare spending for physician services that has climbed more than 9 per cent per year, since 2000. This book examines the Medicare law that specifies a formula for calculating the annual update in payments for physicians' services.

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